



MISSISSIPPI POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

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P. O. BOX 1640, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39205

March 16, 1984

NUCLEAR PRODUCTION DEPARTMENT

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Washington, D. C. 20555

Attention: Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director

Dear Mr. Denton:

SUBJECT: Grand Gulf Nuclear Station
Unit 1
Docket No. 50-416
License No. NPF-13
File: 0260/15324
Compliance with 10CFR61
AECM-84/0131

This letter is to inform you of Mississippi Power & Light (MP&L) Company's plans for meeting the classification and waste form requirements of 10CFR61. MP&L is strongly committed to the full implementation of 10CFR61. The program which is now in place at the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station (GGNS) demonstrates MP&L's commitment to both classification and waste form requirements.

Currently GGNS, a 1250 MWe Boiling Water Reactor (BWR), is limited to conducting low-power testing. Due to our present status, adequate and stable waste-stream data bases which would enable the derivation of accurate scaling factors are not available. It is MP&L's intention to analyze representative samples of waste streams, in a timely manner, after the Full-Power Operating License has been granted and GGNS waste streams become stable. Plant-specific scaling factors will then be derived.

MP&L presently uses a calculational methodology to meet 10CFR61 classification requirements. This program is explained in the November, 1983, AIF/NESP Report, "Methodologies for Classification of Low-Level Radioactive Wastes from Nuclear Power Plants," by Nuclear Safety Associates and Impell Incorporated. Using this methodology, waste is classified into A, B, or C categories. The scaling factors used in the methodology are based on data gathered at operating BWR nuclear stations, and take into account the physical and chemical characteristics of the radionuclides. Detailed GGNS procedures for using this methodology are now in place.

MP&L considers the methodology contained in the above referenced report to be a reasonable approach for the classification of radioactive wastes. The NRC also apparently supports this methodology for classifying nuclear power plant wastes, as stated in a letter sent by Mr. L. B. Higginbotham (NRC-Low Level Waste & Uranium Recovery Projects Branch) to Mr. Russ Stanford (Utility Nuclear Waste Management Group), dated January 27, 1984.

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MP&L is also investigating the use of a computer program to classify waste. The program would apply generic scaling factors for reactor wastes similar to the waste being classified. The NRC's guidance document, "Implementation of 10CFR20, Section 20.311 and 10CFR61 - Supplementary Guidance" suggests using this type of methodology if a plant has little operating history. After representative sample analysis can be performed, plant-specific scaling factors would be added to the computer program.

MP&L is meeting the waste form requirements of 10CFR61 as follows:

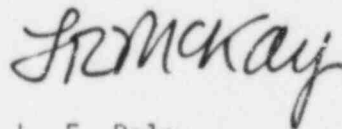
A contractor is currently dewatering resins at GGNS. Approved GGNS procedures are used to ensure that no free-standing water greater than that allowed by burial site criteria exists. The contractor's Topical Report for this process has been submitted for review to the NRC.

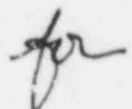
GGNS does not have an operational in-house waste solidification system. Future plans require using a contractor, in accordance with our approved Process Control Program (PCP), to solidify resins and liquid wastes in cement or other approved binding media. This NRC-approved PCP will ensure our compliance with the waste form requirements of 10CFR61.

In addition to using the methods described above for complying with the requirements of 10CFR61, MP&L will continue to evaluate new technical data and regulatory guidance, with the intent of improving our Radioactive Waste Management Program.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. James E. Wallace, Radiation Protection Specialist, at (601) 969-2407.

Yours truly,



 L. F. Dale
Manager of Nuclear Services

DBL/JEW:aly

cc: Mr. J. B. Richard
Mr. R. B. McGehee
Mr. T. B. Conner
Mr. G. B. Taylor

Mr. Richard C. DeYoung, Director
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

cc: (cont'd on next page)

cc: Mr. Leo B. Higginbotham, Chief
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