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MIDDLE SOUTH UTILITIES SYSTEM

December 17, 1984

W3P84-3506
3-A1.01.04
A4.05

Director, Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Attention: Mr. G.W. Knighton, Chief
Licensing Branch No. 3
Division of Licensing
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

SUBJECT: Waterford 3 SES
Docket 50-382
Broad Range Toxic Gas Detectors

REFERENCE: LP&L Letter W3P84-1094, dated April 30, 1984.

Dear Mr. Knighton:

As indicated by the NRC Staff in Supplement 6 to the Safety Evaluation Report, dated June 1984, LP&L has complied with its previous commitments regarding toxic gas protection, namely chlorine and ammonia detectors, hotline communications with the St. Charles Parish Emergency Operations Center (EOC), periodic surveys of the local industrial and transportation activities, and letters of agreement with local industries for notification of toxic chemical inventory changes. However, LP&L, to date, has not been able to demonstrate a functional Broad Range Toxic Gas Detection (BRTGD) system.

The referenced letter provided justification for interim operation of Waterford 3, without a BRTGD system, because of problems in demonstrating the satisfactory function of the installed photoionization process detection system. To date attempts at repairing the installed system have proved unsuccessful, therefore, LP&L has taken steps to purchase and install an additional photoionization-based toxic chemical detector system (from another supplier) to replace the existing system previously identified in the design basis for Waterford 3. In spite of the temporary unavailability of a functional BRTGD, LP&L feels that the aggregate of measures described above and in the referenced letter, are adequate to meet NRC regulations and protect the control room operators.

By not later than July 1, 1985, LP&L hereby commits to have in place an operable toxic gas detection system, or equivalent protective measures, capable of detecting and indicating the presence of toxic gases at the control

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room air intakes. Additionally, prior to startup following the first refueling outage, LP&L will propose technical specifications for the system for inclusion in Appendix A to the license.

Should you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

K W Cook

K.W. Cook
Nuclear Support & Licensing Manager

KWC:plc

cc: E.L. Blake, W.M. Stevenson, R.D. Martin, D.M. Crutchfield, J.H. Wilson
G.L. Constable, K.M. Campe.