GULF STATES UTILITIES COMPANY
RIVER BEND STATION POST OFFICE BOX 220 ST. FRANCISVILLE, LOUISIANA 70775
AREA CODE 504 635-6094 346-8651

November 5, 1992
RBG- 37,685
File Nos. G9.5, G9.25.1.3

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555

Gentlemen:

River Bend Station - Unit 1
Docket No. 50-458

Enclosed please find Supplement 1 to Gulf States Utilities Company's Special Report concerning inoperative meteorological instrumentation at River Bend Station (RBS). This report is submitted pursuant to RBS Technical Specification 3.3.7.3 and 6.9.2.

Sincerely,

for W. H. Odell
Manager - Oversight
River Bend Nuclear Group

LAE/PDG/FRC/DNL/SMF

12-105

IE22

cc: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 400
Arlington, TX 76011

NRC Resident Inspector
P.O. Box 1051
St. Francisville, LA 70775

INPO Records Center
1100 Circle 75 Parkway
Atlanta, GA 30339-3064

Mr. C. R. Oberg
Public Utility Commission of Texas
7800 Shoal Creek Blvd., Suite 400 North
Austin, TX 78757

Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
Nuclear Energy Division
P.O. Box 82135
Baton Rouge, LA 70884-2135
ATTN: Administrator

REPORTED CONDITION

On September 1, 1992, with the reactor shut down for refueling (Operational Condition 5), abnormal traces on the primary and secondary 150 foot wind direction analog chart recorders were observed during a routine surveillance. These square corner traces were indicative of failure of both primary and secondary channel wind direction sensors at the 150 foot location. Note that the primary channel instrumentation had been previously rendered inoperable. On October 28, 1992, associated maintenance was completed and the meteorological tower was returned to service. Therefore, this report is submitted pursuant to Technical Specifications 3.3.7.3 and 6.9.2.

INVESTIGATION

The meteorological tower at River Bend Station is a 150 foot open latticed tower located approximately 2800 feet west of the reactor building. Meteorological instrumentation on the tower is located at elevations of 30 feet and 150 feet, and was supplied by Teledyne-Geotech.

The secondary channel failure was investigated under MWO R153300. Note that the previous failure of the primary channel was attributed to an aged and weathered cable. With no obvious damage present, and secondary sensor chart recordings similar to those of the primary sensor chart recording, the failure of the secondary sensor was caused by an aged and weathered cable. This natural aging/weathering process may have been aggravated by hurricane Andrew, which passed within 25 miles of River Bend Station. Hurricane Andrew's winds of up to 84 miles per hour were recorded at the meteorological tower.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

Maintenance Work Order (MWO) R153300 provided for the replacement of some damaged structural cross-arms and all instrumentation on the meteorological tower, which consists of primary and secondary wind speed sensors at the 30 foot and 150 foot locations, and primary and secondary wind direction sensors at the 30 foot and 150 foot locations. In addition, all cables running between these instruments and the boom carriage junction boxes were replaced under MWO R153300. Surveillance procedures have been performed and the meteorological tower has been returned to service.