



GULF STATES UTILITIES COMPANY

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AREA CODE 713 838-6631

May 1, 1985
RBG- 20865
File Nos. G9.5, G9.23

Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Denton:

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

Gulf States Utilities Company (GSU) requests your approval to invoke ASME Code Case N-413 for River Bend Station (RBS). This request is being made in accordance with 10CFR50.55(a), footnote 6.

Code Case N-413 is entitled "Minimum Size of Fillet Welds for Subsection NF Linear Type Supports, Section III, Division 1". The ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Committee approved Code Case N-413 during the November 1984 meeting in New York City and it has been published by ASME with a stated approval date of February 14, 1985.

GSU requests your approval to invoke ASME Code Case N-413 for both fillet and partial penetration welds for ASME Subsection NF Linear Type Supports, including attachment welds for such supports to supporting structures. The 1974 code governs fabrication and erection of Subsection NF Linear Type Supports for RBS. To invoke the Code Case the following requirements will be met:

1. Welding procedures and qualification are in compliance with Section III and Section IX of the 1974 Code.
2. The weld size is specified on the design drawings.
3. The Code Case shall be shown on the NF-1 form and in the design specification, and it will be stated to be applicable in the FSAR in an amendment to that document.

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4. Instead of using the stress allowables in Table NF-3324.5(a)-1 of the present code, those given in Table NF-3292.1-1 of the 1974 Code will apply. In particular, the weld stress allowable of 18 ksi for base material with a tensile strength between 45 ksi and 60 ksi for the weaker matching base metal being joined, will apply per the 1974 Code. This is more conservative than the present Code with an allowable weld stress of 21 ksi for base material with a tensile strength between 58 ksi and 70 ksi, in the region where the ranges of base metal tensile strengths overlap.

Sincerely,

J. E. Booker

J. E. Booker
Manager-Engineering
Nuclear Fuels & Licensing
River Bend Nuclear Group

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