

• LLOYD BENTSEN
TEXAS

COMMITTEES:
FINANCE
ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS
JOINT ECONOMIC
JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION
SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

April 3, 1985

Mr. Carlton C. Kammerer, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs
The United States Nuclear Regulatory
Commission
1717 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20555

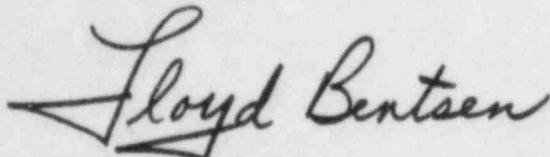
Dear Mr. Kammerer:

Mr. Paul W. Murrill has contacted me concerning the
River Bend nuclear project. A copy of this
correspondence is attached for your reference.

In view of the concerns expressed by Mr. Murrill, I
would appreciate your thorough review of this matter.
I look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Lloyd Bentsen

Enclosure

PLEASE REPLY TO:

961 Federal Building
Austin, Texas 78701

8505310443 850521
PDR ADOCK 05000458
H PDR

GULF STATES UTILITIES COMPANY

POST OFFICE BOX 2951 • BEAUMONT, TEXAS 77704

PAUL W. MURRILL

Chairman of the Board and

Chief Executive Officer

(409) 839 - 2167

March 19, 1985

The Honorable Lloyd Bentsen
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Bentsen:

As Gulf States' River Bend power plant nears completion, I thought it might be useful to provide you with an update on the status of this important project.

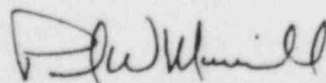
Construction of River Bend is essentially complete, at 96 percent, with emphasis now being placed on the critical startup and testing phase, which is about 75 percent finished.

Every year or so the Nuclear Regulatory Commission issues a "report card" on each nuclear plant under construction. We recently received the latest River Bend assessment, which is summarized in the attached cover letter that accompanied the report. Paragraphs three and four illustrate why we continue to be so proud of the job our people are doing at River Bend.

As you know, the NRC is tough to please, which gives added importance to what is being achieved at River Bend. In the past, the NRC has done an excellent job of scheduling its licensing activities to conform to our timetable for loading fuel and putting the unit into service. Recently, however, there have been indications that the NRC has so much work to do on several nuclear projects that it may not be able to keep up with our schedule.

River Bend has a good chance of becoming a nuclear industry success story--the first nuclear plant since the early 1970s to be built so quickly. We are doing our best to achieve that distinction and we would appreciate any assistance you can provide in encouraging the NRC to help us bring River Bend on line as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



PWM/mhm
Attachment



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV
611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 1000
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011

FEB 28 1985

RECEIVED

MAR 06 1985

GSU
NUCLEAR LIC.

In Reply Refer To:
Docket: 50-458/84-40

Gulf States Utilities
ATTN: William J. Cahill, Jr.
Senior Vice President
River Bend Nuclear Group
P. O. Box 2951
Beaumont, Texas 77704

Gentlemen:

This forwards the report of the Systematic Assessment of Licensee Performance (SALP) Board for the River Bend Station. The SALP Board met on February 5, 1985, to evaluate the performance of the River Bend facility for the period August 1, 1983, through December 31, 1984. The performance analyses and resulting evaluations are documented in the enclosed SALP Board Report.

The performance of your facility was evaluated in the selected functional areas identified in Section IV of the enclosed SALP Board Report.

The overall performance of Gulf States Utilities at the River Bend Station indicates a high level of dedication to nuclear safety as well as a high degree of technical competence in diverse areas essential to the safe construction, testing, and operation of the facility. The ability of management to identify problem areas and to respond to these with effective measures is commendable. Continued strong and aggressive management control is appropriate as your activities change from principally construction-related to operations.

It is of significant merit that the facility received Category 1 ratings in the functional areas of Containment and Other Safety-Related Structures, Corrective Action and Reporting, and Management Control. It is noted that in only one functional area did the rating decrease; this was in the functional area of Design Control, which was appraised in performance category 2 during this SALP period.

Unless you specifically request it, a management meeting will not be scheduled for this reporting period. Any request for a management meeting should be made in writing within 10 days of receipt of this report.

Any comments which you may have regarding our evaluation of the performance of your facility should be submitted to this office within 30 days of the date of issue of this SALP Board Report. Your comments, if submitted, and our disposition of them, will be issued as appendices to the SALP Board Report.

Comments which you may submit are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act, PL 96-511.

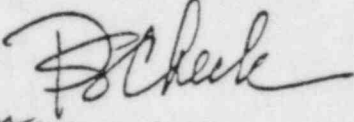
~~4503050300~~

Gulf States Utilities

-2-

Should you have any questions concerning this letter, we shall be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,


for Robert D. Martin
Regional Administrator

Enclosure:

Appendix - SALP Board Report 5G-458/85-40

with:

- Attachment 1: Design Control
Input from IE
- Attachment 2: Licensing Input
From NRR

cc w/enclosure:

Gulf States Utilities

✓ ATTN: J. E. Booker, Manager-
Engineering, Nuclear
Fuels & Licensing

P. O. Box 2951
Beaumont, Texas 77704

CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

SECY NUMBER: 85-295

LOGGING DATE: 4/17/85

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

ACTION OFFICE: EDO

AUTHOR: Senator Lloyd Bentsen on behalf of constituent Paul Murrill, Chm.,
Gulf States Utilities

AFFILIATION: U.S. Senate

LETTER DATE: 4/3/85

FILE CODE:

ADDRESSEE: Carl Kammerer, OCA

SUBJECT: Requests assistance in obtaining a license for River Bend.

ACTION: Direct Reply. Suspense: May 1

DISTRIBUTION: OCA to Acknowledge, Docket.

SPECIAL HANDLING:

SIGNATURE DATE:

FOR THE COMMISSION: Combs

RECEIVED
Date... 4-18-85
Time... 2:30 p

EDO --- 000552