



LOUISIANA
POWER & LIGHT

142 DELARONDE STREET
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

• P.O. BOX 8008
70174-8008

• (504) 366-2345

May 15, 1985

W3P85-1036
3-A25.01.02
A4.10

Mr. Myron O. Knudson, P.E.
Director, Water Management Division
Environmental Protection Agency
Region VI
First International Building
1201 Elm Street
Dallas, Texas 75270

SUBJECT: Waterford Steam Electric Station
Unit Number 3
NPDES Permit No. LA 0007374

Dear Mr. Knudson:

On April 11, 1985, the flow at outfall 002 was 0.366 MGD which exceeded our permitted maximum flow of 0.232 MGD. We became aware of this noncompliance on May 13, 1985 while preparing the Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) for April 1985. The exact cause of this unusually high flow is unknown, although there was overall a greater flow through this outfall this month than has been occurring. Flows for several days surrounding this day were at least an order of magnitude lower than this flow, and this one time-occurrence was the only exceedence during the month.

On April 21, 1985, the thermal discharge was calculated to be 1.0×10^{10} BTU/hr which exceeded our permit limitation of 8.5×10^9 BTU/hr. We became aware of this apparent noncompliance also while preparing the April DMRs on May 13, 1985. This parameter is calculated by multiplying the instantaneous temperature rise across the condenser by the flow occurring at that point in time. This calculated value appears to have exceeded our permitted limitation for approximately 4-6 hours on April 21, 1985, however this value is artificially high. Only 5 of 6 condenser water boxes were in service during this time; the sixth was opened to inspect for leakage, so that although there were 4 circulating water pumps in operation, there was significantly less flow than what we credit 4 pump operation from pump curve data. Since there is no mechanism to compensate for this flow reduction, or to physically measure the flow rate, we are obligated to report and use the full-flow 4 pump flow rate to calculate thermal discharge although we know that the actual flow rate was significantly less. Hence the actual thermal discharge is significantly less than the reported, calculated value.

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Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Chadi Groome of our Nuclear Licensing Office at (504) 595-2846.

Very truly yours,


R.P. Barkhurst
Plant Manager-Nuclear

RPB/CDG/ch

cc: J. Dale Givens - LA DEQ
US NRC - R.D. Martin - Region IV
G.W. Knighton - NRR