

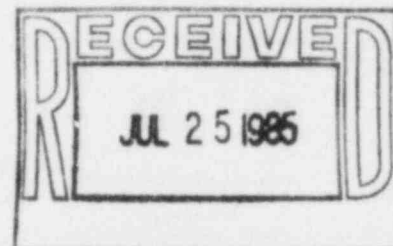


GULF STATES UTILITIES COMPANY

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

July 25, 1985
RBG- 21654
File Nos. G9.5

Mr. Robert D. Martin, Regional Administrator
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region IV, Office of Inspection and Enforcement
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000
Arlington, Texas 76011



Dear Mr. Martin:

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

On behalf of Gulf States Utilities Company and Cajun Electric Power Cooperative, owners of River Bend Station Unit 1, we are pleased to inform you that the design, construction and pre-operational testing work required for fuel load has been completed.

Many of the items which were identified for completion after fuel loading in our letter of June 13, 1985 have been completed. These are identified in our letter of July 22, 1985 which supplements and updates the June 13, 1985 letter. The early completion of these items eliminates the need for license exemptions in the affected matters. A comprehensive fuel load checkoff list has been prepared for sign-off by the responsible managers prior to commencement of loading.

As a part of our program to determine our readiness to load fuel, a special meeting of our Board of Director's Committee on Nuclear Safety and our Nuclear Safety Advisory Committee was held on June 18, 1985 to discuss fuel loading plans and schedule. As part of this meeting, the Nuclear Safety Advisory Committee (composed of Drs. Pigford, Woodson, and Lambremont) toured the plant. On the basis of the meeting presentations and the tour, no objection to fuel loading was identified by any member of either committee.

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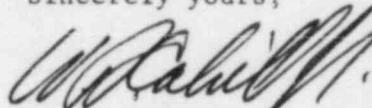
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Mr. Robert D. Martin
July 25, 1985
Page 2 of 2

Based on the foregoing, we feel that the plant is ready
for the issuance of an operating license.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "W. J. Cahill, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

W. J. Cahill, Jr.
Senior Vice President
River Bend Nuclear Group

WJC/sk

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