

APPENDIX A

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Gulf States Utilities  
River Bend Station

Docket No.: 50-498  
Permit: CPPR-145

During an NRC inspection conducted on April 1-July 12, 1985, a violation of NRC requirements was identified. The violation involved structural steel welds that did not conform with requirements. In accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedure for NRC Enforcement Actions," 10 CFR Part 2, Appendix C (1985), the violation is listed below:

A. Failure to Assure Conformance of Safety-Related Structural Steel Welds with Requirements

Criterion X of Appendix B to 10 CFR Part 50 requires that a program for inspection of activities affecting quality be established and executed to verify conformance with the documented instructions, procedures, and drawings for accomplishing the activity.

Chapter 3 of the River Bend Station Final Safety Analysis Report, through Revision 20 dated June 1985, committed to the use of the American Welding Society-Structural Welding Code AWS D 1.1-75, with respect to welding of structural steel, including inspection.

Section 1 of Stone & Webster Engineering Corporation's (SWEC) implementing Specification for Structural Steel No. 210.310, prior to the issuance of Engineering & Design Coordination Report (E&DCR) No. C-7271 dated May 24, 1985, required that final inspection shall be visual in accordance with AWS D1.1. Prior to the issuance of E&DCR No. C-6616 dated May 25, 1985, it also required that temporary attachment welds to permanent plant members which remain shall meet the visual inspection requirements of Section 8 of AWS D1.1.

Contrary to the above, the inspection program for safety-related structural steel welds was not adequately executed to assure conformance to the requirements of Specification No. 210.310 and the AWS D1.1-75 Code, as evidenced by the following:

- o Thirty-five safety-related, welded structural steel connections from six safety-related buildings were selected by the NRC inspectors for reinspection. The inspection reports, all dated before May 1983, showed that all the welds had been accepted. The reinspection activity was performed by a SWEC field quality control certified welding inspector, and was witnessed by the NRC inspectors with inspection results randomly verified.

The following conditions were identified in the indicated buildings:

- o Fuel Building: two of the five inspected connections exhibited undersized weld returns.
- o Control Building: one of the six inspected connections exhibited undersized weld returns and all six had numerous arc strikes.
- o Auxiliary Building: of the seven inspected connections, seven had undersized weld returns, six had arc strikes, five had slag, one had undercut, one had a crater crack and one had a missing return. Further inspection reports for three of the connections showed that the erection seat temporary attachment welds were acceptable; however, the return welds were missing.

This is a Severity Level IV violation (Supplement II).

Pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 2.201, Gulf States Utilities is hereby required to submit to this office within 30 days of the date of the letter transmitting this Notice, a written statement or explanation in reply, including for each violation: (1) the reason for the violations if admitted, (2) the corrective steps which have been taken and the results achieved, (3) the corrective steps which will be taken to avoid further violations, and (4) the date when full compliance will be achieved. Where good cause is shown, consideration will be given to extending the response time.

Dated at Arlington, Texas,  
this 2d day of August, 1985.