

Mr. Joseph J. Hagan
Vice President, Operations GGNS
Entergy Operations, Inc.
P. O. Box 756
Port Gibson, MS 39150

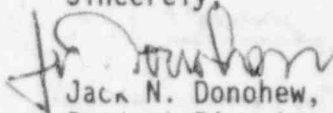
January 29, 1997

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RELATED TO A PROPOSED EXEMPTION
TO THE CRITICALITY MONITORING REQUIREMENTS IN 10 CFR 70.24(a)
(TAC NO. M96177)

Dear Mr. Hagan:

The staff is continuing its review of your submittal dated July 15, 1996, on a proposed exemption to the criticality monitoring requirements of 10 CFR 70.24(a) for storage of incore detectors and unirradiated nuclear fuel. To permit us to continue our review on the current schedule we require that the information requested in the enclosure to this letter be provided within 45 days of your receipt of this letter. The information requested in the enclosure was discussed with your staff during my visit to the site during the week of January 27, 1997, to expedite the submittal of the information needed by the staff.

Sincerely,



Jack N. Donohew, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate IV-1
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Docket No. 50-416

Enclosure: Request for Additional Information

cc w/encl: See next page

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 29, 1997

Mr. Joseph J. Hagan
Vice President, Operations GGNS
Entergy Operations, Inc.
P. O. Box 756
Port Gibson, MS 39150

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jack N. Donohew", is written over the typed name.

Jack N. Donohew, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate IV-1
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-416

Enclosure: Request for Additional Information

cc w/encl: See next page

Mr. Joseph J. Hagan
Entergy Operations, Inc.

Grand Gulf Nuclear Station

cc:

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REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

PROPOSED EXEMPTION TO CRITICALITY MONITORING REQUIREMENTS IN 70.24(a)

ENTERGY OPERATIONS, INC., ET. AL.

GRAND GULF NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 1

DOCKET NO. 50-416

The following questions are based on the licensee's proposed exemption to 10 CFR 70.24(a) in its submittal of July 15, 1996.

1. Provide a list of the areas at Grand Gulf, Unit 1 which contain criticality monitors that conform to 10 CFR 70.24(a), the activities conducted in these areas with special nuclear material (SNM), and the amount of SNM that could be in these areas. Describe the controls, if any, which limit the SNM in these areas.
2. Describe the procedural controls and/or physical constraints which exist to preclude inadvertent removal of unirradiated fuel from Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)-approved packaging in areas where criticality monitors are not provided.
3. Discuss the maximum U-235 fuel enrichment (or k-infinity) of fuel analyzed for storage in the fresh fuel racks at Grand Gulf, Unit 1, and the effects of accidental flooding or low-density optimum moderation conditions on potential criticality in storage. Discuss the maximum enrichment which is accounted for in the NRC-approved packaging.
4. Discuss the administrative controls mentioned in Section 9.1.1.3.1 of the Updated Final Safety Analysis Report that are used to prohibit the introduction of sources of optimum moderation to the stored fresh fuel.
5. Discuss how this exemption would remain valid if a future fuel enrichment increase was contemplated for Grand Gulf Unit 1. The Technical Specifications for Unit 1 do not limit the enrichment of the fuel at the site.
6. Discuss that radiation monitoring remains available to meet the requirements of GDC 63 for fuel storage areas.

ENCLOSURE