

Mr. John R. McGaha, Jr.  
Vice President - Operations  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
River Bend Station  
P. O. Box 220  
St. Francisville, LA 70775

October 8, 1996

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION OF SPENT FUEL STORAGE POOL SAFETY ISSUES: ISSUANCE OF  
FINAL REPORT, RIVER BEND STATION (TAC NO. M88094)

Dear Mr. McGaha:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff recently completed a detailed review of spent fuel storage pool safety issues. The results of the staff's review are documented in a report to the Commission, which is enclosed for your information. In the report, the staff concludes that existing structures, systems, and components related to the storage of irradiated fuel provide adequate protection of public health and safety.

Notwithstanding this finding, the staff has also identified certain design features that reduce the reliability of spent fuel pool decay heat removal, increase the potential for loss of spent fuel coolant inventory, or increase the potential for consequential loss of essential safety functions at an operating reactor. The staff intends to conduct plant-specific regulatory analyses to evaluate potential safety enhancement backfits pursuant to 10 CFR 50.109(a)(3) at a number of operating plants that possess one or more of these design features.

Although River Bend Station, Unit 1 is not identified for a plant-specific safety enhancement backfit analysis by the staff, it is requested that you review the enclosed report for applicability to your facility and consider actions, as appropriate, related to the design of spent fuel pool decay heat removal systems at your facility. This letter does not require any response.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at 301-415-1031.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:  
David L. Wigginton, Senior Project Manager  
Project Directorate IV-1  
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-458

Enclosure: Memo to the Commission, from J. Taylor,  
"Resolution of Spent Fuel Storage Pool  
Action Plan Issues," dated July 26, 1996

cc w/encl: See next page

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

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "D. Wigginton", is written over the typed name.

David L. Wigginton, Senior Project Manager  
Project Directorate IV-1  
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Mr. John R. McGaha  
Entergy Operations, Inc.

River Bend Station

cc:

Winston & Strawn  
1400 L Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20005-3502

Manager - Licensing  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
River Bend Station  
P. O. Box 220  
St. Francisville, LA 70775

Director  
Joint Operations Cajun  
10719 Airline Highway  
P. O. Box 15540  
Baton Rouge, LA 70895

Senior Resident Inspector  
P. O. Box 1050  
St. Francisville, LA 70775

President of West Feliciana  
Police Jury  
P. O. Box 1921  
St. Francisville, LA 70775

Regional Administrator, Region IV  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000  
Arlington, TX 76011

Ms. H. Anne Plettinger  
3456 Villa Rose Drive  
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

Administrator  
Louisiana Radiation Protection Division  
P. O. Box 82135  
Baton Rouge, LA 70884-2135

Executive Vice President and  
Chief Operating Officer  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
P. O. Box 31995  
Jackson, MS 39286

General Manager - Plant Operations  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
River Bend Station  
P. O. Box 220  
St. Francisville, LA 70775

Director - Nuclear Safety  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
River Bend Station  
P. O. Box 220  
St. Francisville, LA 70775

Vice President - Operations Support  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
P. O. Box 31995  
Jackson, MS 39286-1995

Attorney General  
State of Louisiana  
P. O. Box 94095  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9095

Wise, Carter, Child & Caraway  
P. O. Box 651  
Jackson, MS 39205

Vice President & Controller  
Cajun Electric Power Cooperative  
10719 Airline Highway  
P.O. Box 15540  
Baton Rouge, LA 70895