

AUG 2 1985

Docket No.: 50-458

Mr. William J. Cahill, Jr.
Senior Vice President
River Bend Nuclear Group
Gulf States Utilities Company
Post Office Box 2951
Beaumont, Texas 77704
ATTN: Mr. J. E. Booker

Dear Mr. Cahill:

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION - REACTOR PROTECTION SYSTEM

Confirming a telephone conversation on August 2, 1985, between R. Bernero of the NRC and yourself, we are requesting additional information in the area of the reactor protection system. The request for information is detailed in the enclosure.

Pursuant to our agreement, please respond to this request by COB August 5, 1985. Please inform NRC Project Manager, Stephen Stern, of any request for clarification or further discussion on this topic.

Sincerely,

~~Original~~ signed by:

Walter Butler, Chief
Licensing Branch No. 2
Division of Licensing

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

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

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Mr. William J. Cahill, Jr.
Gulf States Utilities Company

River Bend Nuclear Plant

cc:

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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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RIVER BENDREQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

GSU should provide adequate justification for using non-safety related equipment in the RPS downstream of the EPAs, or design, install, and classify these components as safety related. If justification for the existing design is provided, it should be demonstrated that all RPS bus loads are not required during or following any design basis event, in particular, seismic events. Since the distribution panels and breakers are not seismically qualified, the staff is concerned that: (1) power cannot be restored to the RPS buses following a seismic event, and (2) faults resulting from a seismic event could degrade the RPS (if the MG sets remain on line during the event). The first concern is that loads powered from the RPS buses may be required to achieve, maintain, and monitor safe shutdown of the reactor following a seismic event. The second concern is that a seismic event could cause a degraded voltage condition at the RPS distribution panels (e.g., undervoltage) that would not be detected by the EPAs, and could compromise the safety function of the RPS.

In addition, since the RPS distribution panels and breakers have been identified as non-safety related, the staff is concerned that they will not receive the same treatment as safety related components (e.g., during maintenance activities), which could lead to degradation of RPS performance. Furthermore, since these non-safety related components are located downstream of the EPAs, the staff is concerned that the function of the EPAs (i.e., to ensure that adequate voltage is supplied to RPS components) could be compromised.