



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-8064

NOV 8 1996

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

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 50-458/96-27 AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. McGaha:

An NRC inspection was conducted August 26-30 and September 9-13, 1996, at your River Bend Station reactor facility. The enclosed report presents the scope and results of that inspection. The overall conclusions of this inspection were discussed with Mr. Tom Davey and other engineering managers of your staff on November 4, 1996.

The inspection team concluded that, generally, your conduct of engineering activities has been effective and that you have made good progress toward improving your engineering capabilities. This was especially evident in the plant engineering area. Plant engineers were found to be knowledgeable of their systems, to be communicative with other plant disciplines, and to be highly qualified. However, the inspection team noted that there were a number of past engineering issues that still needed to be resolved. For example, there had been a lack of proper load testing on the station blackout diesel generator, a failure to maintain your design basis documents current since 1986, and inadequate engineering support of the preventive maintenance program.

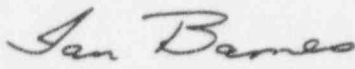
The inspection also identified a violation of NRC requirements involving inadequacies in design control which occurred when design modifications were not translated into a alarm response procedure, a station operating procedure, and a system calculation. The violation is cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice) and the circumstances surrounding it are described in detail in the enclosed report. Please note that you are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. The NRC will use your response, in part, to determine whether further enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosure(s), and your response will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR). To the extent possible, your response should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be placed in the PDR without redaction.

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Should you have any questions concerning this inspection, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,


for Kenneth E. Brockman, Acting Director
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No.: 50-458
License No.: NPF-47

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Violation
2. NRC Inspection Report
50-458/96-27

cc w/enclosures:

Executive Vice President and
Chief Operating Officer
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Entergy Operations, Inc.
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General Manager
Plant Operations
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St. Francisville, Louisiana 70775

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St. Francisville, Louisiana 70775

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President of West Feliciana
Police Jury
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Systems Engineering
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Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70895

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

E-Mail report to D. Nelson (DJN)
E-Mail report to NRR Event Tracking System (IPAS)

bcc to DMB (IE01)

bcc distrib. by RIV:

L. J. Callan
DRP Director
Branch Chief (DRP/D)
Project Engineer (DRP/D)
Branch Chief (DRP/TSS)
Resident Inspector

Senior Resident Inspector (Grand Gulf)
Senior Resident Inspector (Cooper)
DRS-PSB
MIS System
RIV File
Leah Tremper (OC/LFDCB, MS: TWFN 9E10)

DRS AI 96-G-01__

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E-Mail report to D. Nelson (DJN)

E-Mail report to NRR Event Tracking System (IPAS)

bcc to DMB (IE01)

bcc distrib. by RIV:

L. J. Callan

DRP Director

Branch Chief (DRP/D)

Project Engineer (DRP/D)

Branch Chief (DRP/TSS)

Resident Inspector

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