



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV

611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-8064

FEB 20 1997

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

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 50-458/96-017 AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. McGaha:

An NRC inspection was conducted December 15, 1996 through February 1, 1997, at your River Bend Station reactor facility. The enclosed report presents the scope and results of that inspection.

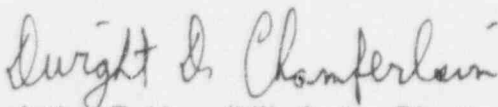
During the 7-week period covered by this inspection period, your conduct of activities at the River Bend Station facility was generally characterized by safety-conscious operations, sound engineering and maintenance practices, and good radiation protection support. We are concerned, however, about one violation of NRC requirements that was identified. This violation is of concern because personnel failed to implement corrective actions to preclude dropping objects into the standby cooling tower basin.

The violation is cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice) and the circumstances surrounding the violation is 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 enclosures, 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.

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

Sincerely,


for Arthur T. Howell III, Acting Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No.: 50-458

License No.: NPF-47

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Violation
2. NRC Inspection Report
50-458/96-017

cc w/enclosures:

Executive Vice President and
Chief Operating Officer
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Jackson, Mississippi 39286-1995

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

General Manager
Plant Operations
River Bend Station
Entergy Operations, Inc.
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St. Francisville, Louisiana 70775

Director - Nuclear Safety
River Bend Station
Entergy Operations, Inc.
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Winston & Strawn
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Manager - Licensing
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The Honorable Richard P. Ieyoub
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Larry G. Johnson, Director
Systems Engineering
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10719 Airline Highway
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William H. Spell, Administrator
Louisiana Radiation Protection Division
P.O. Box 82135
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70884-2135

FEB 20 1997

E-Mail report to T. Boyce (THB)
 E-Mail report to NRR Event Tracking System (IPAS)
 E-Mail report to Don Taylor (DRT)
 E-Mail report to Richard Correia (RPC)

bcc to DMB (IE01)

bcc distrib. by RIV:

Regional Administrator
 DRP Director
 Branch Chief (DRP/D)
 Project Engineer (DRP/D)
 Branch Chief (DRP/TSS)
 Resident Inspector

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

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