GULF STATES UTILITIES COMPANY
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March 10, 1986
RBG-23,302
File Nos. G9.5, G9.25.1.4

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

Dear Mr. Martin:

River Bend Station - Unit 1
Docket No. 50-458

Enclosed is Gulf States Utilities Company's Special Report concerning area temperature monitoring at River Bend Station. This report is submitted pursuant to Technical Specifications 3/4.7.8 and 6.9.2.

Sincerely,

for J. E. Booker
Manager-Engineering,
Nuclear Fuels & Licensing
River Bend Nuclear Group

JEB/TFP/DRG/BEH/je

cc: Document Control Desk
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

IE31
1/1

86-263

SPECIAL REPORT

REPORTED CONDITION

At approximately 1300 on 02/04/86 with the unit at 27 percent power and during the performance of Surveillance Test Procedure STP-000-001 "Daily Operating Logs", thermocouple 1E31*N604D in the Main Steam Tunnel (MST), North, indicated temperatures in excess of the Technical Specification 3/4.7.8 temperature limit of 122 degrees F. This Special Report is submitted because temperatures in the location of the thermocouple remained above this limit for greater than eight hours. A Special Report was previously submitted on 12/11/85 (RBG-22,779) for a similar condition.

INVESTIGATION

As a result of the condition reported in letter number RBG-22,779, investigation determined that thermocouples used to monitor general area temperature in the MST were located in dead air spaces resulting in non-representive high temperature indications. Subsequent relocations of these thermocouples corrected this problem for three out of four thermocouples but 1E31*N604D continued to indicate higher temperatures.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

The condition was temporarily resolved with the installation of a portable blower to aid in air circulation and the elimination of dead air spaces. The thermocouple was again relocated by Modification Request (MR) 85-926-F-4 and now indicates temperatures consistent with other thermocouples located in the MSL, North.

Additionally, MR 85-927 to install additional air supply duct work is expected to be completed during the next planned outage. The temporary duct work already installed to help minimize dead air spaces will remain in place until the completion of MR 85-927.

Finally, MR 86-232 is being prepared to consider converting the water supply to unit cooler 1HVR*UC8 from service water to chilled water. The need for MR 86-232 will be determined as River Bend Station approaches 100 percent power operation.

TEMPERATURE RECORD

The following table shows the highest documented temperature readings taken from indicator 1E31*N604D and the conservative temperature profile assumed for analysis purposes.

IE 31

Time	Temperature Reading	Assumed Temperature Profile*
Feb. 4 a.m.	117°F	129°F
p.m.	129°F	132°F
Feb. 5 a.m.	132°F	133°F
p.m.	133°F	133°F
Feb. 6 a.m.	127°F	127°F
p.m.	123°F	123°F
Feb. 7 a.m.	122°F	124°F
p.m.	124°F	124°F

* These temperatures were assumed to prevail throughout the 12 hour period following the temperature reading.

ANALYSIS FOR CONTINUED OPERABILITY

The highest recorded temperature of 133 degrees F compares to a design qualification temperature of 320 degrees F for equipment located in the affected environmental zone. Thus, there is no impact on continued operability.

The effect on qualified life by exceeding the Technical Specification setpoint of 122 degrees F was calculated using the above listed temperature profile and a conservative activation energy of 0.8 eV. The resulting reduction in qualified life is equivalent to 1.5 days of operation at 122 degrees F. When compared to the minimum qualified life of five (5) years for equipment located in the affected environmental zone this reduction is insignificant.