

GULF STATES UTILITIES COMPANY

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AREA CODE 713 838-6631



July 31, 1978

RBC - 5504

File G9.5

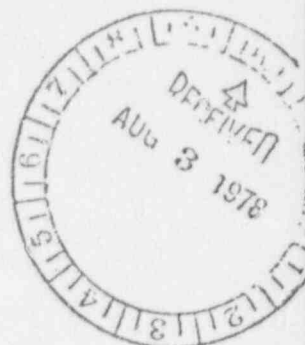
Mr. W. C. Seidle, Chief

Reactor Construction and Engineering Support Branch

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission - Region IV

611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000

Arlington, TX 76011



Dear Mr. Seidle:

River Bend Station Units 1 & 2

Docket Nos. 50-458, 50-459

Alligator Bayou Crossing - Status Report

With regard to Gulf States Utilities (GSU) letter to you dated June 19, 1978, GSU is hereby submitting its first status report of the activities to date regarding the environmental studies for the Alligator Bayou crossing.

Water quality measurements, phytoplankton, microzooplankton, fish larvae, and benthos data were collected during the March-May 1978 quarter. The Alligator Bayou crossing study has been considered fully operational since early July 1978, and data will be collected for the River high and low water cycles anticipated for the remainder of the study.

By way of clarification to GSU's response 3 in the June 19, 1978 letter, Louisiana State University (LSU) provides GSU with a narrative summary at the end of each quarter that includes the status of the monitoring capability (e.g. confirmation of sampling activities), and also addresses any adverse environmental impacts noted during that quarter and includes an overall assessment of the impacts from program start through that quarter. The actual collected data is not transmitted to GSU each quarter, but is retained by LSU to be submitted in the yearly report.

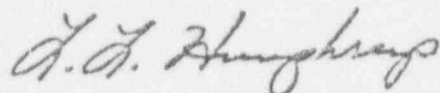
The data collection effort is in the initial phase (March-May 1978) and the major monitoring equipment has recently been obtained. In addition, there was some difficulty in obtaining access to monitoring stations. Deterioration of the access road into the Needle Lake area had hampered data collection in that vicinity. GSU has consulted with LSU regarding this and has upgraded the access to Needle Lake to help facilitate the monitoring. Also is has been brought to GSU's attention

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that overbank flooding of the River above the Alligator Bayou crossing may have a tendency to complicate the study effort. GSU is working with LSU to minimize this potential effect on the study effort and to assure the objectives of the study are met.

In summary, there is not adequate information at this early stage in the Alligator Bayou crossing study to make any conclusion regarding the culvert crossing environmental impact.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "L. L. Humphreys".

L. L. Humphreys
Senior Vice President-
Energy Development

WJR/mb

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF JEFFERSON

In the Matter of

GULF STATES UTILITIES COMPANY

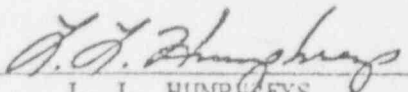
(River Bend Station,
Units 1 and 2)

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Y
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Y
Y
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Y


Docket Nos. 50-458
50-459

AFFIDAVIT

L. L. HUMPHREYS, being duly sworn, states that he is a Senior Vice President of Gulf States Utilities Company; that he is authorized on the part of said Company to sign and file with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission the documents attached hereto; that he has read all of the statements contained in such documents attached thereto and made a part thereof; and that all such statements made and matters set forth therein are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.


L. L. HUMPHREYS

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and County above named, this 31st day of July, 1978.


Notary Public in and for
Jefferson County, Texas

My Commission Expires:

August 31, 1978

