

*Purpose of Meeting:* To provide advice to Program Officers concerning proposals submitted to NSF for financial support.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate proposals for the Statistics and Probability Program as part of the selection process for awards.

*Reason for Closing:* The proposals being reviewed include information of a proprietary or confidential nature, including technical information; financial data, such as salaries and personal information concerning individuals associated with the proposals. These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552(c) (4) and (6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act.

Dated: November 14, 1997.

**M. Rebecca Winkler,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 97-30363 Filed 11-18-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-458]

### Entergy Gulf States, Inc. and Cajun Electric Power Cooperative, Inc.; River Bend Station, Unit No. 1, Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an order approving, under 10 CFR 50.80, the transfer of Facility Operating License No. NPF-47, to the extent now held by Cajun Electric Power Cooperative, Inc. (Cajun), to Entergy Gulf States, Inc. (EGSI, the licensee) with respect to the River Bend Station, Unit No. 1 (RBS), located in West Feliciana Parish, Louisiana, and issuance of a conforming amendment under 10 CFR 50.90.

#### Environmental Assessment

##### *Identification of the Proposed Action*

The proposed action would consent, by the issuance of an order, to the transfer of the 30% minority ownership interest in the facilities for RBS from Cajun to EGSI and approve the issuance of a conforming amendment to the license.

The proposed action is in accordance with the application, endorsed and consented to by EGSI, dated October 15, 1997, filed by Ralph R. Mabey, Trustee for Cajun.

##### *The Need for the Proposed Action*

The proposed action is required to obtain the necessary consent to the transfer of the license, to the extent now held by Cajun, and approval of the amendment discussed above. Cajun is a minority owner of RBS with an ownership share of 30%. In 1994, after

a two-year rate investigation, the Louisiana Public Service Commission disallowed from rate recovery Cajun's \$1.8 billion investment in River Bend. This action precipitated Cajun's decision on December 21, 1994, to file a voluntary petition with the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Louisiana (the "Bankruptcy Court") for protection under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. Cajun had borrowed the majority of the \$1.8 billion to invest in RBS from the Rural Utilities Service ("RUS") of the United States Department of Agriculture. On August 26, 1996, the Bankruptcy Court approved the terms of a settlement agreement between Cajun, EGSI, and the RUS which allows the Trustee to seek authority to transfer Cajun's 30% undivided ownership interest in RBS. The application dated October 15, 1997, seeks consent to transfer Cajun's 30% interest to EGSI and an amendment to the license to reflect that transfer.

##### *Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action*

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed action and concludes that there will be no changes to the facility or its operation as a result of the proposed action. Accordingly, the NRC staff concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed action will not affect nonradiological plant effluents and will have no other environmental impact. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

##### *Alternatives to the Proposed Action*

Since the Commission has concluded there is no measurable environmental impact associated with the proposed action, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impact need not be evaluated. As an alternative to the proposed action, the staff considered denial of the proposed action. Denial of the application would result in no change in current environmental impacts. The environmental impacts of the proposed action and the alternative action are similar.

##### *Alternative Use of Resources*

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement for the River Bend Station, Unit No. 1.

#### *Agencies and Persons Consulted*

In accordance with its stated policy, on November 13, 1997, the staff consulted with the Louisiana State official, Mr. William Spell of the Department of Environmental Quality, Radiation Protection Division, regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

#### *Finding Of No Significant Impact*

Based upon the environmental assessment, the Commission concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, the Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for proposed action.

For further details with respect to the proposed action, see the application dated October 15, 1997, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, The Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at the Government Documents Department, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 13th day of November 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**James W. Clifford,**

*Acting Director, Project Directorate IV-1, Division of Reactor Projects III/IV, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*

[FR Doc. 97-30331 Filed 11-18-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

### Assurance of Equipment Operability and Containment Integrity During Design-Basis Accident Conditions; Issue

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of Issuance.

**SUMMARY:** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has issued Generic Letter (GL) 96-06, Supplement 1 to inform all holders of operating licenses for nuclear power reactors, except those who have permanently ceased operations and have certified that fuel has been permanently removed from the reactor vessel, about ongoing efforts and new developments associated with GL 96-06, and to provide additional guidance that addressees may find useful in planning and scheduling future actions associated with GL 96-06. This generic letter is for information

only; no specific action or written response is required. Conformance with the guidance provided in the generic letter is voluntary.

The generic letter is available in the NRC Public Document Room under accession number 9711050091.

**DATES:** The generic letter was issued on November 13, 1997.

**ADDRESSEES:** Not applicable.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Beth A. Wetzel at (301) 415-1355.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

Addressees of GL 96-06 have experienced difficulty in determining and implementing corrective actions for resolving the issues identified in the generic letter. Additionally, questions have been raised regarding (1) the risk implications of installing relief valves to deal with the thermal overpressurization issue; (2) the use of the ASME Code, Section III, Appendix F, criteria for permanent resolution of the thermal overpressurization issue; and (3) the NRC staff's closure of Generic Safety Issue 150, "Overpressurization of Containment Penetrations." Given these considerations, risk insights, and industry initiatives that are being considered or that may be proposed, addressees may require additional time to fully evaluate and resolve the GL 96-06 issues. Therefore, addressees who find it necessary to revise their corrective actions or scheduler commitments for resolving GL 96-06 issues may submit a revised response to the generic letter. Nevertheless, specific corrective actions that have been defined and are clearly needed should not be delayed without suitable justification.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 13th day of November 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**David B. Matthews,**

*Acting Director, Division of Reactor Program Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*

[FR Doc. 97-30332 Filed 11-18-97; 8:45 am]

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## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

### Sunshine Act Meeting

**DATE:** Weeks of November 17, 24, December 1 and 8, 1997.

**PLACE:** Commissioners' Conference Room, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

**STATUS:** Public and Closed.

### MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

*Week of November 17*

Friday, November 21

11:30 a.m. Affirmation Session (Public Meeting)

A. Final Rule—Deliberate Misconduct by Unlicensed Persons (Tentative)

B. Louisiana Energy Services—Financial Qualifications Aspects of Petitions for Review of LBP-96-25 (Contact: Ken Hart, 301-415-1659)

*Week of November 24—Tentative*

There are no meetings the week of November 24.

*Week of December 1—Tentative*

There are no meetings the week of December 1.

*Week of December 8—Tentative*

Thursday, December 11

2:00 p.m. Briefing on Investigative Matters (Closed—Ex. 5 & 7)

3:00 p.m. Affirmation Session (Public meeting) (if needed)

Friday, December 12

9:00 a.m. Meeting with Northeast Nuclear on Millstone (Public meeting) (Contact: Bill Travers, 301-415-1200)

**Note:** The schedule for commission meetings is subject to change on short notice. To verify the status of meetings call (recording)—(301) 415-1292. Contact person for more information: Bill Hill (301) 415-1661.

The NRC Commission Meeting Schedule can be found on the Internet at: <http://nrc.gov/SECY/smj/schedule.htm>.

This notice is distributed by mail to several hundred subscribers; if you no longer wish to receive it, or would like to be added to it, please contact the Office of the Secretary, Attn: Operations Branch, Washington, DC 20555 (301-415-1661).

In addition, distribution of this meeting notice over the Internet system is available. If you are interested in receiving this Commission meeting schedule electronically, please send an electronic message to [wmh@nrc.gov](mailto:wmh@nrc.gov) or [dkw@nrc.gov](mailto:dkw@nrc.gov).

Dated: November 14, 1997.

**William M. Hill, Jr.,**

*SECY Tracking Officer, Office of the Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 97-30527 Filed 11-17-97; 12:32 pm]

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## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

### Biweekly Notice

### Applications and Amendments to Facility Operating Licenses Involving No Significant Hazards Considerations

#### I. Background

Pursuant to Public Law 97-415, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission or NRC staff) is publishing this regular biweekly notice. Public Law 97-415 revised section 189 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), to require the Commission to publish notice of any amendments issued, or proposed to be issued, under a new provision of section 189 of the Act. This provision grants the Commission the authority to issue and make immediately effective any amendment to an operating license upon a determination by the Commission that such amendment involves no significant hazards consideration, notwithstanding the pendency before the Commission of a request for a hearing from any person.

This biweekly notice includes all notices of amendments issued, or proposed to be issued from October 27, 1997, through November 6, 1997. The last biweekly notice was published on November 5, 1997 (62 FR 59912).

#### Notice Of Consideration Of Issuance Of Amendments To Facility Operating Licenses, Proposed No Significant Hazards Consideration Determination, And Opportunity For A Hearing

The Commission has made a proposed determination that the following amendment requests involve no significant hazards consideration. Under the Commission's regulations in 10 CFR 50.92, this means that operation of the facility in accordance with the proposed amendment would not (1) involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated; or (2) create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated; or (3) involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety. The basis for this proposed determination for each amendment request is shown below.

The Commission is seeking public comments on this proposed determination. Any comments received within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice will be considered in making any final determination.

Normally, the Commission will not issue the amendment until the