

*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]

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## 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]

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## 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