Mr. Charles M. Dugger Vice President Operations Entergy Operations, Inc. P. O. Box B Killona, LA 70066

SUBJECT: EVALUATION OF THE REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF THE FIRST INSERVICE

INSPECTION INTERVA', WATERFORD STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNIT 3

(TAC NO. M98996)

Dear Mr. Dugger:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has reviewed and evaluated the information provided by Entergy Operations, Inc. in its letter dated June 13, 1997, requesting, as an alternative to the first inservice inspection (ISI) interval, an extension of the inspection interval in order to complete the required system pressure tests. The proposed alternative of extending this first ISI interval to include September 24, 1997, is authorized pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55 a(a)(3)(ii), in that compliance with the code interval would result in hardship or unusual difficulty without a compensating increase in the level of quality and safety. The staff's evaluation and conclusion are contained in the enclosure.

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Sincerely,
ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:
James Clifford, Acting Director
Project Directorate IV-1
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-382

Enclosure: NRC Staff Evaluation and Conclusion

cc w/encl: See next page

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

June 30, 1997

Mr. Charles M. Dugger Vice President Operations Entergy Operations, Inc. P. O. Box B Killona, LA 70066

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INSPECTION INTERVAL, WATERFORD STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNIT 3

(TAC NO. M98996)

Dear Mr. Dugger:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has reviewed and evaluated the information provided by Entergy Operations, Inc. in its letter dated June 16, 1997, requesting, as an alternative to the first inservice inspection (ISI) interval, an extension of the inspection interval in order to complete the required system pressure tests. The proposed alternative of extending this first ISI interval to include September 24, 1997, is authorized pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55 a(a)(i)(ii), in that compliance with the code interval would result in hardship or unusual difficulty without a compensating increase in the level of quality and safety. The staff's evaluation and conclusion are contained in the enclosure.

Sincerely,

James Clifford, Acting Director

Project Directorate IV-1

Division of Reactor Projects III/IV Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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cc:

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