No. 95-105 Tel. 301/415-8200 Internet:OPA@NRC.GOV FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Tuesday, August 29, 1995)

NRC TO TRANSFER REGULATORY RESPONSIBILITY FOR CALLAWAY AND GRAND GULF TO REGION IV OFFICE

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has decided to transfer regional oversight responsibility for the Callaway and Grand Gulf nuclear power plants to its Region IV office in Arlington, Texas. The transfer will become effective October 1.

Currently, regional oversight for Callaway, a standardized nuclear unit power plant system (SNUPPS) facility near Fulton, Missouri, is directed from the NRC's Region III office in Lisle, Illinois. SNUPPS plants are identical in design and, once reviewed and approved by the NRC for construction and operation, can be used by one or more utilities at one or more sites. The Callaway plant is operated by Union Electric Company. The only other SNUPPS-designed plant in the U.S., Wolf Creek in Kansas, already receives Region IV oversight.

Regional oversight for the Grand Gulf plant, which is operated by Entergy Operations, Inc., near Vicksburg, Mississippi, currently comes from the Region II office in Atlanta, Georgia. The other Entergy plants in Region IV are Arkansas 1 and 2 and the River Bend and Waterford plants, both in Louisiana.

NRC's Executive Director for Operations, James M. Taylor, said the action to place all Entergy-operated and SNUPPS plants in Region IV enhances day-to-day oversight activities and makes for a more efficient reactor inspection program.

The NRC is coordinating this transfer with other Federal, State and local agencies.

Oversight of other nuclear facilities and all material licensees in the States of Mississippi and Missouri will remain unchanged.