



South Texas Project Electric Generating Station P.O. Box 289 Wadsworth, Texas 77483

November 13, 2001  
NOC-AE-01001213  
STI: 31374844  
10CFR50

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Attention: Document Control Desk  
Washington, D.C. 20555

South Texas Project  
Units 1 and 2  
Docket Nos. STN 50-498, STN 50-499  
Response to Question 5 in NRC Bulletin 2001-01,  
"Circumferential Cracking of Reactor Pressure Vessel Head Penetration Nozzles"

Reference: Response to NRC Bulletin 2001-01 dated August 29, 2001, from J. J. Sheppard to  
NRC Document Control Desk (NOC-AE-01001163)

As requested in NRC Bulletin 2001-01, STPNOC committed in the referenced correspondence to respond to Question 5 of the Bulletin within 30 days after restart following the next refueling outage. STP Unit 1 completed its refueling outage on October 24, 2001. The response is provided below. The STPNOC response to Questions 1 through 4 in the NRC Bulletin 2001-01 was provided to the NRC on August 29, 2001 as referenced above.

**Requested Information**

5. Addressees are requested to provide the following information within 30 days after plant restart following the next refueling outage:
  - a. a description of the extent of VHP nozzle leakage and cracking detected at your plant, including the number, location, size, and nature of each crack detected;
  - b. if cracking is identified, a description of the inspections (type, scope, qualification requirements, and acceptance criteria), repairs, and other corrective actions you have taken to satisfy applicable regulatory requirements. This information is requested only if there are any changes from prior information submitted in accordance with this bulletin.

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**Response**

- a. No VHP nozzle leakage or cracking was detected at STPEGS during our Unit 1 refueling outage that ended on October 24, 2001. These inspections were general visual examinations of the Reactor Vessel Head in accordance with the STPNOC Procedure for Reactor Coolant System Pressure Boundary Inspection for Boric Acid Leaks. No special inspections were conducted on the VHP nozzles.
- b. No cracking was identified, therefore, this section is not applicable

If you should have any questions regarding this submittal, please contact me at 361-972-8757 or Mr. Michael Lashley at 361-972-7523.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on 11/13/01  
Date



J. J. Sheppard  
Vice President,  
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AWH/

cc:

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