

October 1, 2003

LICENSEE: STP Nuclear Operating Company

FACILITY: South Texas Project, Unit 1 and Unit 2

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF HEADQUARTERS AND SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT  
NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL  
OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2003, REGARDING THE SOUTH TEXAS  
PROJECT PROPOSED RISK-INFORMED INSERVICE TESTING  
PROGRAM (TAC NOS. MB8948 AND MB8949)

On September 12, 2003, the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Headquarters staff held a telephone conference call with STP Nuclear Operating Company (STPNOC), the licensee for South Texas Project (STP), Units 1 and 2. The purpose of the telephone conference call was to discuss the proposed Risk-Informed Inservice Testing (RI-IST) program submittal. The staff had held a prior telephone call with STP on July 31, 2003, to discuss 3 paths that were available to move forward with the RI-IST licensing action and STP had indicated they would make a decision on how they wished to proceed (ADAMS ML032461333). A list of participants is enclosed.

During the call, STP stated that they appreciated the staff's efforts on the review and the recent NRC correspondence that accurately summarized the ongoing telephone discussions between STP and the NRC. STP indicated their belief that their proposed RI-IST proposal fell within a template set by Regulatory Guide 1.175, "An Approach for Plant-Specific, Risk-Informed Decisionmaking: Inservice Testing" and the NRC approval of the RI-IST program at San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS). STP recognizes that differences exist in their program and that these present some challenges to the review of their proposal. Mr. T. Jordan of STP stated they wished to withdraw their current RI-IST proposal and that a revised application based on the SONGS approach would be submitted at a later date. STP indicated their desire to hold a meeting with the NRC staff in advance of the new submittal to discuss how STP would intend to handle review questions and concerns that had been raised for the application they are withdrawing.

The staff responded that they were agreeable to hold the requested meeting. The staff indicated that it would be helpful during the meeting for STP to discuss specific examples, and associated categorization worksheets, where components categorized as high for the special treatment exemption had been re-categorized for the RI-IST to medium or low. STP agreed that it would be valuable to discuss these types of specifics during the meeting. The staff also stated that it would be beneficial for STP to discuss during the meeting how their modified approach along the lines of SONGS would interface with the special treatment exemption aspects.

The telephone conference call ended with STP and NRC staff agreeing on the approach to move forward on the RI-IST proposal.

***/RA/***

Robert A. Gramm, Chief, Section 1  
Project Directorate IV  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-498 and 50-499

Enclosure: List of Participants

cc w/encl: See next page

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**/RA/**

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SEPTEMBER 12, 2003

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ENCLOSURE