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**Subject:** SUMMARY OF A CALL HELD ON MARCH 10, 2016, BETWEEN USNRC AND STPNOC, CONCERNING THE STAFF'S UPCOMING AUDIT REGARDING THE AMP FOR THE LOSS OF MATERIAL DUE TO SELECTIVE LEACHING OF AL-BR WELDS IN THE ECW SYSTEM FOR THE STP LRA (TAC. NOS. ME4936 AND ME4937)  
**Date:** Monday, March 14, 2016 9:37:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[Enclosure to Summary of Call on March 10 2016 bw USNRC and STPNOC re STP LRA upcoming audit for Al-Br selective leaching.pdf](#)  
[image002.png](#)

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**UNITED STATES**  
**NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

**LICENSEE:** STP Nuclear Operating Company

**FACILITY:** South Texas Project

**SUBJECT:** SUMMARY OF A CONFERENCE CALL HELD ON MARCH 10, 2016, BETWEEN THE U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION AND STP NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY, CONCERNING THE STAFF'S UPCOMING AUDIT REGARDING THE AGING MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR THE LOSS OF MATERIAL DUE TO SELECTIVE LEACHING OF ALUMINUM BRONZE WELDS IN THE ESSENTIAL COOLING WATER SYSTEM FOR THE SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT, LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION (TAC. NOS. ME4936 AND ME4937)

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or the staff) and representatives of STP Nuclear Operating Company (STPNOC or the applicant) held a telephone conference call on March 10, 2016, to gain alignment on information and technical support needed for an upcoming call and audit focused on loss of material due to selective leaching of aluminum bronze welds in the essential cooling water (ECW) system.

Coming into today's call, the NRC staff stated that they did not know how the applicant planned to address the potential aluminum bronze selective leaching of welds (or path forward), the basis for the path forward, nor what information is already on the docket that would support the path forward. As a result, the staff was not able to describe the information needed to review and accept the aging management program for loss of material due to selective leaching of aluminum bronze welds in the ECW system.

The applicant stated that they anticipate addressing the loss of material due to selective leaching of aluminum bronze welds in the ECW system through analysis combined with a one-time inspection. They further explained that the basis for this path forward is a 1992 relief requested submitted on January 17, 1992, the RAIs issued by the staff during their review, the RAI responses submitted by STPNOC, and the staff's safety evaluation report. The applicant stated that the 1992 relief requests and presentations address many of the NRC's concerns. In addition, the applicant stated that they have made available the draft Appendix A 1.37 and Appendix B2.1.37 for use during the upcoming audit.

The staff stated that it would review the 1992 relief request documentation in anticipation of an upcoming audit preparation call and the audit, but cautioned that the 1992 relief request was submitted under Title 10 *Code of Federal Regulation* (CFR) Part 50 (10 CFR 50), "Domestic licensing of production and utilization facilities," not under 10 CFR 54, "Requirements for renewal of operating licenses for nuclear power plants."

The applicant informed the staff of topics to be covered during the upcoming audit and stated that they would provide a roadmap of the available information to help the staff prepare for the upcoming audit:

1. Introduction and overview of the aging management program,
2. Weld performance, failure history, and failure analysis,
3. Weld Procedure, heat control, pipe and weld rod chemistry/certified mill test reports, and
4. Weld mechanical properties/chemistry and microstructure.

The Enclosure provides the list of participants.

The applicant had an opportunity to comment on this summary.

Sincerely,

Lois M. James, Sr. Project Manager  
Projects Branch 1  
Division of License Renewal  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-498 and 50-499

Enclosure:  
List of Participants

cc w/encl: Listserv

ADAMS Accession No.: ML16074A041

**\*Concurred via e-mail**

| OFFICE | PM:RPB1:DLR | BC:RPB1:DLR    | PM:RPB1:DLR |
|--------|-------------|----------------|-------------|
| NAME   | LJames      | YDiaz-Sanabria | LJames      |
| DATE   | 03/14/2016  | 03/14/2016     | 03/14/2016  |

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**TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL  
ESSENTIAL COOLING WATER SYSTEM CLOSURE BOLTING  
SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT  
LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION**

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

March 10, 2016

**PARTICIPANTS**

Lois James  
Christopher Hovanac  
William Holston  
Lance Sterling  
Arden Aldridge  
Rafael Gonzales  
Rob Engen  
Henry Vaillancourt

**AFFILIATIONS**

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STP Nuclear Operating Company (STPNOC)  
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Enclosure