

# The Light company

Houston Lighting & Power P.O. Box 1700 Houston, Texas 77001 (713) 228-9211

June 4, 1981  
ST-HL-AE-679  
SFN: V0100



Mr. Karl Seyfrit  
Director, Region IV  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000  
Arlington, Texas 76012

Dear Mr. Seyfrit:

By letter dated April 8, 1977, Region IV suggested to HL&P that a NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES be posted pending changes to NRC regulations. This NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES was to identify a telephone number at Region IV that would accept calls from nuclear industry workers wishing to speak with an NRC representative concerning quality of work, radiological safety or safeguard problems.

By letter dated June 3, 1977, HL&P agreed to post the suggested notice at the South Texas Project.

Events since this time have included the formal promulgation of 10 CFR Part 21 which included the formal requirement for posting of notices with respect to the reporting of defects and non-compliances. As explained below, HL&P believes that posting of the NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES referred to in Region IV's April 8, 1977, letter is no longer appropriate.

In particular HL&P has posted a notice clearly identifying a local area contact office and telephone number to which any employee may report a safety concern (copy enclosed). This notice also identifies a location at which a procedure for implementing 10 CFR Part 21 is located as well as locations at



TEO1  
S  
1/1

8108110201 810604  
PDR ADQCK 05000498  
Q PDR

## NOTICE TO ALL STP EMPLOYEES

### STATEMENT OF POLICY


Any employee working on the design, construction or operation of the South Texas Project (STP), is encouraged to bring to the attention of his/her supervisor or to other persons in the management of Houston Lighting & Power Company (HL&P) or Brown & Root (B&R), any concern he/she may have about: the proper and safe design of equipment and/or structures at the STP; the adequacy of construction practices; the adequacy of procedures for the design, construction or operation of the STP; or any other matter affecting the quality and/or safety of the STP.

Although we urge that you communicate directly with your supervisor or other management representatives of HL&P and B&R, you are also free to communicate on these matters directly with the Regional Office of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The NRC Regional Office will accept collect calls at (817) 465-8100.

HL&P management representatives are also available and may be contacted at (713) 228-1763. B&R management representatives may be contacted at (713) 676-8187.

Whether you communicate with your supervisor, any other representatives of HL&P and/or B&R or the NRC, it is the express policy of HL&P and B&R that:

BOTH HL&P AND B&R EMPHASIZE THAT IT IS PART OF EACH EMPLOYEE'S RESPONSIBILITY TO BRING TO THE ATTENTION OF HL&P, B&R OR THE NRC ANY CONCERN RELATING TO THE SAFE DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION OR OPERATION OF THE STP. HL&P AND/OR B&R WILL INVESTIGATE EACH SUCH CONCERN AND INFORM THE EMPLOYEE OF THE RESULTS. IF EMPLOYEES BELIEVE THAT THEIR CONCERNS HAVE NOT BEEN PROPERLY CONSIDERED, THEY MAY CONTACT THE NRC DIRECTLY WITHOUT ANY FEAR OF ADVERSE CAREER EFFECT OR DISCRIMINATORY ACTION AGAINST THEM BY HL&P OR B&R.

  
Don D. Jordan  
President,  
Houston Lighting & Power Company

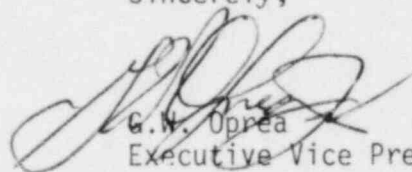
which copies of 10 CFR Part 21 itself are posted. In addition, HL&P is including as part of the contact notice a statement relative to Public Law 96-295 that also encourages individuals to respond if they believe they have reason to express a concern relative to these requirements. A copy of 10 CFR Part 21 in its entirety (including the Region IV 24 hour telephone number) has also been posted.

In addition to the above listed items, HL&P has posted in the same locations a NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES that encourages them to bring any safety concerns to the attention of HL&P without fear of discriminatory action. A copy of this NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES is attached as an enclosure. HL&P does reserve the right to change this Notice, however, any such changes will not affect the spirit or intent as expressed herein.

HL&P believes that the above posting fully complies with the intent of ensuring that employees have mechanisms by which they can bring any safety concerns to the attention of responsible individuals within HL&P or alternatively make their concerns known directly to Region IV.

In summary, HL&P is posting at the entrances to each work facility: (a) a complete copy of 10 CFR Part 21, (b) a notice identifying; the location of 10 CFR Part 21 implementing procedures, a local contact to which any employee may make known their concerns relative to defects and non-compliances under 10 CFR Part 21, and a statement in a part of Public Law 96-295, (c) A NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES encouraging them to bring safety concerns to the attention of HL&P management. These notices will also be posted at separate locations within working areas where employees would gather or congregate. In light of these conditions, HL&P does not propose to maintain the separate NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES suggested in the April 8, 1977, NRC letter.

Sincerely,



G.W. Oprea  
Executive Vice President

CGR/dmh

Attachment

cc: J.H. Goldberg  
R.A. Frazar  
R.P. Murphy  
R.I. Moles  
D.G. Barker  
L.R. Jacobi  
H.G. Overstreet  
G.L. Parkey

# Reporting of Safety-Related Defects and Non-Compliances

## HOUSTON LIGHTING & POWER

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission requires directors and responsible officers of certain firms and organizations to report defects in components and failures to comply with regulatory requirements that may result in a substantial safety hazard. The new regulations are identified as: *Title 10 Chapter 1 Code of Federal Regulations - Energy - Part 21*. They apply to firms that:

- Build, operate, or own NRC licensed facilities or conduct NRC-licensed or regulated activities
- Supply safety-related components for NRC licensed facilities
- Supply safety-related design, testing, inspecting or consulting services for NRC licensed facilities

The following documents provide information relative to the reporting of safety-related defects and non-conformance

### A COPY OF 10 CFR PART 21 IS LOCATED

AT THE MAIN FACILITY ENTRANCE AND AT  
SUPPLEMENTARY LOCATIONS THEREIN ON VARIOUS  
EMPLOYEE BULLETIN BOARDS, LOUNGE AREAS, ETC.

### A COPY OF THE PROCEDURE FOR IMPLEMENTING 10 CFR PART 21 IS LOCATED

- 1) PROJECT LICENSING ENGINEER'S OFFICE/STP SITE
- 2) LICENSING DEPARTMENT, MANAGER'S OFFICE,  
BAYBROOK BUILDING (Houston)

### ANY DEFECTS OR NONCOMPLIANCES WHICH COULD POTENTIALLY AFFECT THE SAFETY FUNCTIONS OF THE NUCLEAR POWER PLANT SHOULD BE REPORTED TO

- 1) SUPERVISING PROJECT ENGINEER/STP SITE  
(512)972-5466, X2207
- 2) MANAGER, NUCLEAR LICENSING/BAYBROOK BUILDING  
(Houston) (713)486-3835

Parts of the federal law and regulation concerning this requirement  
to report safety-related defects and non-compliance are

### PUBLIC LAW 93-438 ENERGY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1974

"Sec 206(a) Any individual director, or responsible officer of a firm constructing, owning, operating, or supplying the components of any facility or activity which is licensed or otherwise regulated pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, or pursuant to this Act, who obtains information reasonably indicating that such facility or activity or basic components supplied to such facility or activity

- (1) Fails to comply with the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, or any applicable rule, regulation, order, or license of the Commission relating to substantial safety hazards, or
- (2) Contains a defect which could create a substantial safety hazard, as defined by regulations which the Commission shall promulgate,

shall immediately notify the Commission of such failure to comply, or of such defect, unless such person has actual knowledge that the Commission has been adequately informed of such defect or failure to comply.

(b) Any person who knowingly and consciously fails to provide the notice required by subsection (a) of this section shall be subject to a civil penalty in an amount equal to the amount provided by section 234 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended

(c) The requirements of this section shall be prominently posted on the premises of any facility licensed or otherwise regulated pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended

(d) The Commission is authorized to conduct such reasonable inspections and other enforcement activities as needed to insure compliance with the provisions of this section."

### PUBLIC LAW 96-295 CRIMINAL PENALTIES FOR CERTAIN VIOLATIONS OF THE ATOMIC ENERGY ACT

"b. Any individual director, officer or employee of a firm constructing, or supplying the components of any utilization facility required to be licensed under section 103 or 104 b. of this Act who by act or omission, in connection with such construction or supply, knowingly and willfully violates or causes to be violated, any section of this Act, any rule, regulation, or order issued thereunder, or any license condition, which violation results, or if undetected could have resulted, in a significant impairment of a basic component of such a facility shall, upon conviction, be subject to a fine of not more than \$25,000 for each day of violation, or to imprisonment not to exceed two years, or both. If the conviction is for a violation committed after a first conviction under

this subsection, punishment shall be a fine of not more than \$50,000 per day of violation, or imprisonment for not more than two years, or both. For the purposes of this subsection, the term 'basic component' means a facility structure, system, component or part thereof necessary to assure -  
(1) the integrity of the reactor coolant pressure boundary,  
(2) the capability to shut-down the facility and maintain it in a safe shut-down condition, or  
(3) the capability to prevent or mitigate the consequences of accidents which could result in an unplanned off-site release of quantities of fission products as established by the Commission."