

# The Light company

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

Designated  
Original  
(in external) E. Uchida  
Return to R. Woods, IE

July 14, 1981  
ST-HL-AE-696  
SFN: C-0570

Mr. G. L. Madsen, Chief  
Reactor Project Branch  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of Inspection and Enforcement  
Region IV  
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000  
Arlington, Texas 76012

Subject: South Texas Project Units 1 & 2  
Use of Slickline and Slush Coat Grout  
Docket Nos. 50-498, and 50-499



Dear Mr. Madsen:

This letter is intended to clarify and provide additional information relative to the use of slickline and slush coat grout on the South Texas Project (STP) in response to questions raised during the June 29, 1981 meeting with Messrs. R. Hall and J. Tapia and subsequent conversations between these gentlemen, Mr. W. Seidle and our Mr. D. G. Barker.

The application of grout on construction joints facilitates bonding and consolidation of the first layer of concrete placed on a joint, in addition to lubricating the slickline prior to the pumping of concrete. In order to alleviate any concern that the quantity of grout used on a construction joint might be of sufficient magnitude to be considered a structural element, changes will be made to the project specifications/procedures to reduce the quantity of grout placed on construction joints. The quantity of grout to be allowed on the joints will be controlled by the amount ordered. The amount ordered shall be calculated based upon a one inch layer rounded up to the nearest one-half cubic yard. For pump placements, the amount ordered will serve to butter the slickline. This change will negate the specification allowance of one-half cubic yard per 100 feet of slickline for buttering purposes.

Relative to the grout (A-0-3-15) that has been used on the project to butter slicklines and as slush coat, we have a high degree of confidence that the quality of the grout exceeds design requirements based on the batching records and batch plant inspection records for all such grout batched. The grout proportions are based on the design mix and batched such that the water cement ratio, quantity of AEA and water reducing retarding agent, as well as the cement and fine aggregate quantities satisfy design mix requirements. The batching method, verified by inspections, provides assurance that the quality of the grout is more than sufficient as evidenced by numerous cube strength tests taken on this material.

8109080400 810714  
PDR ADOCK 05000498  
A PDR

Houston Lighting & Power Company

July 14, 1981

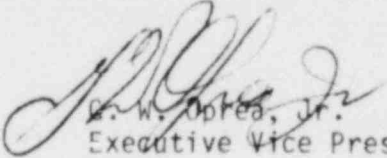
ST-HL-AE-696

SFN: C-0570

Page 2

Therefore, Houston Lighting & Power remains of the opinion that sufficient controls commensurate with the safety significance of this material, including its use, do exist and have existed in the past. These controls have assured that the material incorporated into safety-related structures has the required quality. Further controls will reduce the quantities of this grout to be used, such that consideration of this grout as a structural element is eliminated.

Very truly yours,

  
W. W. Oprea, Jr.  
Executive Vice President

DGB/flj

Houston Lighting & Power Company

cc: J. H. Goldberg  
J. G. Dewease  
D. G. Barker  
C. G. Robertson  
Howard Pyle  
R. L. Waldrop  
H. R. Dean  
D. R. Beeth  
J. D. Parsons  
J. W. Williams  
J. W. Briskin  
J. E. Geiger  
STP RMS

H. S. Phillips (NPC)  
J. O. Read (Read-Poland, Inc.)  
M. D. Schwarz (Baker & Botts)  
R. Gordon Gooch (Baker & Botts)  
J. R. Newman (Lowenstein, Newman, Reis, & Axelrad)  
Director, Office of Inspection & Enforcement  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20555

July 14, 1981  
ST-HL-AE-696  
SFN: C-0570  
Page 3

M. L. Borchelt/R. L. Range  
Central Power & Light Company  
P. O. Box 2121  
Corpus Christi, Texas 78403

Charles Bechhoefer, Esquire  
Chairman, Atomic Safety & Licensing Board  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20555

R. L. Hancock/T. H. Muehlenbeck  
City of Austin  
P. O. Box 1088  
Austin, Texas 78767

Dr. James C. Lamb, III  
313 Woodhaven Road  
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514

J. B. Poston/A. vonRosenberg  
City Public Service Board  
P. O. Box 1771  
San Antonio, Texas 78296

Mr. Ernest E. Hill  
Lawrence Livermore Laboratory  
University of California  
P. O. Box 808, L-123  
Livermore, California 94550

Brian E. Berwick, Esquire  
Assistant Attorney for the State of Texas  
P. O. Box 12548  
Capitol Station  
Austin, Texas 78711

William S. Jordan, III  
Harmon & Weiss  
1725 I Street, N. W.  
Suite 506  
Washington, D. C. 20006

Lanny Sinkin  
Citizens Concerned About Nuclear Power  
5106 Casa Oro  
San Antonio, Texas 78233

Citizens for Equitable Utilities, Inc.  
c/o Ms. Peggy Buchorn  
Route 1, Box 1684  
Brazoria, Texas 77422

Jay Gutierrez, Esquire  
Hearing Attorney  
Office of the Executive Legal Director  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20555

Revision Date 7-2-81