

10/26/81

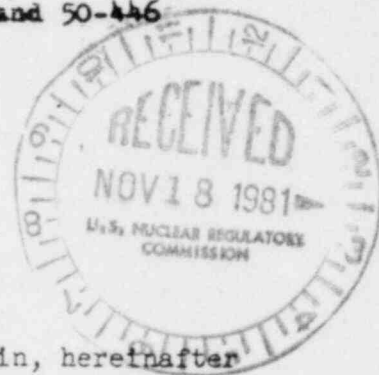
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

In the Matter of

APPLICATION OF TEXAS UTILITIES
GENERATING COMPANY, ET AL. FOR AN
OPERATING LICENSE FOR COMANCHE
PEAK STEAM ELECTRIC STATION
UNITS #1 AND #2 (CPSES)

Docket Nos. 50-445
and 50-446



CASE'S MOTION FOR POSTPONEMENT OF HEARINGS

CASE (Citizens Association for Sound Energy), Intervenor herein, hereinafter referred to as CASE, hereby files its Motion for Postponement of Hearings.

As the basis for this Motion is the DP&L News release today (see CASE Attachment A hereto) which states that the estimated cost of Comanche Peak has been changed to \$3.44 billion, and "that the estimated completion dates of the Comanche Peak nuclear plant...have been revised to 1984 for Unit 1 and 1985 for Unit 2." (Emphasis added.)

Under these circumstances, and taken in conjunction with CASE's 10/17/81 Motions regarding Contentions 22 and 24 and the Joint Motion of Applicants and CASE regarding Contention 25 of 10/19/81, there is no remaining urgent need to proceed with the 12/2/81 hearings prematurely. To do so at this time would be a waste of everyone's time and resources and, in fact, will actually serve to delay the proceedings because of the cut-off of discovery prematurely on issues yet to be fully explored. This is especially true regarding Contentions 22 and 5.

As stated in CASE's 10/17/81 Motion to Postpone Consideration of Contention 22 (originally dated 10/16/81), CASE did not receive Applicants' 8/24/81 Answers to

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the NRC Staff's 7/23/81 letter to Applicants (See CASE Attachment A to our 10/17/81 Motion), in which Applicants responded to the Staff's 18-pages of questions and comments regarding emergency planning until 10/3/81 and we have not had adequate opportunity to review and pursue discovery regarding numerous questions raised by Applicants answers. Further, we have now received an answer from FEMA to our request for the status of state and local radiological emergency preparedness plans for Comanche Peak (See CASE Attachment B hereto). The attached 10/20/81 letter from John De La Garza, Jr., Regional Director of FEMA, states:

"FEMA Region VI is unable at this time to assess the preparedness planning and capability of the State of Texas to make an off-site response to a nuclear accident at the Comanche Peak site. Texas officials have indicated their TARGETED date for submission of a plan for review by FEMA is June 1982. (This information applies to state planning as well as Hood and Somervell Counties planning.) As indicated to you earlier, current status of planning information should be obtained from the State."

The current status of planning information has already been obtained by CASE from the State and was included as CASE Attachment E to our 10/17/81 Motion to Postpone Consideration of Contention 22; it was in the form of a sworn deposition from the State of Texas Administrator, Emergency Response and Investigating Branch, Division of Compliance and Inspection, Bureau of Radiation Control, Texas Department of Health, Robert E. Free. It stated, in part, that:

"(the Bureau is) shooting for a January 1982 date for submission of the Plan (in draft form) to FEMA for comment; (hopes) to have comments by FEMA by March 1982; (is) tentatively planning for an exercise sometime in August or September 1982, and possibly for a follow-up exercise before fuel loading at the Comanche Peak nuclear power plant."

Since, by the Applicants' own statement, Unit 1 is not now scheduled to be completed until 1984, CASE urges that the Board reconsider its previous rulings

which were based on a completion date of June 1982 for Unit 1 and on the Board's attempts "to expedite the hearing schedules in order to alleviate the slippage between the completion of construction and the issuance of an operating license."¹

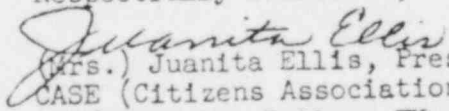
We further urge that the Board instead schedule a pre-hearing conference for 12/1/81 and 12/2/81 to ascertain the exact reasons for the projected two-year delay in the completion date. Obviously, the events which led up to this long delay did not occur overnight, and CASE has difficulty accepting the utility's explanation that:

"The primary reasons for the revised cost of Comanche Peak are: continually changing interpretations of regulations; continuing design changes as a result thereof; and the extended time period to completion," (T. L.) Austin said."

This statement infers that this is also the reason for the delay; however, no specific reason is given for the delay of construction completion. We urge that the Board schedule this pre-hearing conference so that the Board and all parties can be fully informed expeditiously regarding this important development, which has (we believe) direct bearing on Contention 5.

For the reasons stated herein, CASE hereby moves that the Board grant our motion to postpone the hearings and instead schedule a pre-hearing conference for the purpose indicated.

Respectfully submitted,

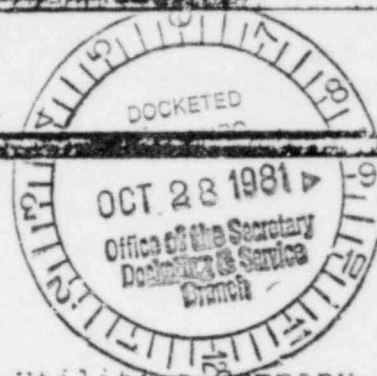

(Mrs.) Juanita Ellis, President
CASE (Citizens Association for Sound Energy)
1426 S. Polk, Dallas, TX 75224

¹ Board Order of October 20, 1981 directing Staff and Applicant to inform the Board promptly and affirmatively of all changes that might have a bearing on scheduled dates, with a reasonable explanation thereof.

D-FOL NEWS

For More Information Contact:

Ray Ward - 698-7641



DALLAS, TEXAS - OCTOBER 26, 1981 - The Texas Utilities Company announced today, as a result of an annual review of the Company's construction program, that the estimated completion dates of the Comanche Peak nuclear plant near Glen Rose have been revised to 1984 for Unit 1 and 1985 for Unit 2. The estimated cost of the plant has also been changed to \$3.44 billion.

The new cost estimate is an increase from the \$2.235 billion estimate made in 1980, according to T. L. Austin, Jr., chairman of the board of Texas Utilities.

"Even though the cost estimate has increased substantially since announced in the early 1970s, the electricity produced by this plant will continue to be substantially less than electricity produced by either oil or natural gas," Austin said.

This is because oil and natural gas prices have increased at an even more rapid rate than has the cost of building the nuclear plant which will use a much lower cost fuel that also is a much more stable priced fuel.

"Building a nuclear power plant is an extremely complex job today because it changes so much from start to finish. Even with a competent and committed project management and construction group -- which we have -- building a nuclear plant has many moving targets.

(more)

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"The primary reasons for the revised cost of Comanche Peak are: continually changing interpretations of regulations; continuing design changes as a result thereof; and the extended time period to completion," Austin said. He stated that the additional interest cost on borrowed construction money caused by the delay is a major contributing factor and also cautioned that both the timetable and cost estimates could change again in the future.

Comanche Peak is jointly owned by Dallas Power & Light Company, Texas Electric Service Company, Texas Power & Light Company, the Texas Municipal Power Agency, Brazos Electric Power Cooperative, Inc., and Tex-La Electric Cooperative of Texas, Inc.

Combined, the owners serve a population of more than 4.5 million people covering about one-third of the area and population of Texas.

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COMANCHE PEAK BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station is a two unit nuclear fueled electric generating plant currently under construction near Glen Rose in Somervell County, Texas approximately 70 miles southwest of the Dallas/Ft. Worth area.

The heart of each of the nuclear units is a Westinghouse pressurized water reactor. The heat generated by the splitting of the uranium fuel will boil water to make steam to turn a turbine generator. Each generator will produce 1,150,000 kilowatts for a station total of 2,300,000 kilowatts.

Originally, Comanche Peak Unit 1 was estimated to begin generating electricity in 1980 and Unit 2 in 1982. The estimated operating dates are now 1984 for Unit 1 and 1985 for Unit 2.

The first cost estimate for the plant, made in 1972, was \$779 million. The cost estimate was revised in 1975 to \$987 million, in 1976 to \$1.38 billion, in 1977 to \$1.7 billion and in 1980 to \$2.235 billion.

The current estimate is \$3.44 billion, including interest costs charged to construction of about \$780 million. The estimate is subject to further revision as construction continues.

Comanche Peak is jointly owned by Dallas Power & Light Company, Texas Electric Service Company, Texas Power & Light Company, the Texas Municipal Power Agency, Brazos Electric Power Cooperative, Inc., and Tex-La Electric Cooperative of Texas, Inc.

INCREASES IN COST ESTIMATEFOR COMANCHE PEAK

Comanche Peak's new cost estimate is based on additional expenses in the following areas:

ENGINEERING AND REDESIGN

\$ 340 million

Architectural and engineering work done off site on original design and modification of original design.

Site engineering by the field engineering staff to implement architectural and design changes and support construction crafts. Includes Three Mile Island backfits, pipe support and hanger design.

Indirect support including engineering accounting, personnel costs such as payroll, etc., purchasing, warehousing, production control.

LABOR COSTS

\$ 245 million

Eighteen million additional manhours of direct costs of craft labor including electricians, welders, pipefitters, instrumentation technicians, startup and testing.

Indirect support personnel, timekeepers, auditors, personnel items such as payroll insurance, etc.

MATERIALS, EQUIPMENT AND OPERATIONS

\$ 220 million

Operations personnel on site, their administrative costs, additional training requirements -- including TMI Lesson Learned Task Force and Security.

Major orders -- nuclear steam supply, major turbine components, fluid handling systems, etc.

Operating support center, additional buildings for increased requirements, additional computing time, and computers.

Major Three Mile Island items -
addition of four computers to the
control room, a safety parameter
display system, additions to the
nuclear steam supply system, a
technical support center.

Miscellaneous items - microwave
communication system, taxes (ad
valorem), social security, workman's
compensation, construction equipment,
rigging, cranes, etc.

COST OF BORROWED MONEY

\$ 400 million

Increased interest cost charged to
construction resulting from delay.

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PROGRESS AND MAJOR MILESTONES

Since Texas Utilities Company submitted an application to the Atomic Energy Commission (now Nuclear Regulatory Commission) in July, 1973 to construct the two Comanche Peak units, a lot has been accomplished and considerable progress has been made in constructing, licensing and readying Comanche Peak for operation.

Listed below are some of the more significant project milestones:

Application to construct Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station submitted to Atomic Energy Commission (AEC)		July, 1973
Public hearings on construction application following AEC and ACRS reviews		between July and November, 1974
Construction permit received from AEC. Construction began		December, 1974
Began filling Squaw Creek Reservoir from Lake Granbury		February, 1977
Application to operate Comanche Peak submitted to NRC		February, 1978
Reactor vessels set inside containment buildings	Unit 1 Unit 2	May, 1978 July, 1979
Containment buildings 'topped out' with concrete	Unit 1 Unit 2	January, 1979 October, 1979
Squaw Creek Reservoir filled		May, 1979
Major concrete work completed	Unit 1 Unit 2	July, 1979 October, 1980
Unit 1 control room manned for first time		January, 1980

-2-

Startup transformers energized	138kv 345kv	January, 1980 July, 1981
First major mechanical system run at Comanche Peak (Service Water System)		March, 1981
NRC issued Safety Evaluation Report (Operating license stage)		July, 1981
NRC issued Final Environmental Statement (Operating license stage)		September, 1981
Unit 1 steam turbine and electrical generator ready for rotation		September, 1981
Unit 2 electrical generator rotor installed		October, 1981

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ESTIMATES OF THE COST OF ELECTRICITY
FROM ALTERNATE FUELS IN 1986 AND 1990

When Comanche Peak goes into operation, it is estimated that the cost of the electricity generated will compare favorably with other available alternative fuels.

In 1986, the cost of electricity in cents per kilowatt-hour from Comanche Peak is expected to be slightly more than that from a lignite unit placed in service at that time, and considerably less than electricity generated by natural gas or oil in an existing unit.

By 1990, the expected continued rapid increase in natural gas and oil costs will make electricity from Comanche Peak even more advantageous. Based on estimates for 1990, it will then be less expensive than electricity from a new lignite plant and less than half the cost of kilowatt-hours generated by out-of-state coal.

The numbers below include all costs - construction, interest, maintenance, fuel, waste disposal and decommissioning (in the case of nuclear power).

Estimates of the Cost to Deliver One Kilowatt-hour
to the Transmission System

<u>1986</u>				
	<u>Gas/oil</u>	<u>Lignite coal</u>	<u>Nuclear</u>	
cents per KWhr	11.8	5.3	6.1	
<u>1990</u>				
	<u>Gas/oil</u>	<u>Lignite coal</u>	<u>Nuclear</u>	<u>Out-of-state coal</u>
cents per KWhr	19.5	7.8	6.5	13.6

COMANCHE PEAK OWNERSHIP

The Texas Utilities Company System, through its three operating electric utilities - Dallas Power & Light Company, Texas Electric Service Company and Texas Power & Light Company - provides service in 87 counties in north central, east and west Texas to more than four million people or one-third of the population of Texas.

The Texas Utilities Company System owns 85 2/3% of the Comanche Peak plant - 1,970,000 KW of the 2,300,000 KW total.

The other 14 1/3% is owned by Texas Municipal Power Agency (6.2%), Brazos Electric Power Cooperative, Inc. (3.8%), and Tex-La Electric Cooperative of Texas, Inc. (4 1/3%).

Texas Utilities Services Inc., a subsidiary of Texas Utilities Company, provides engineering, construction management, financial and other services to the System Companies and is managing the construction of the Comanche Peak station and is overseeing the license application and related matters.

Texas Utilities Generating Company, a subsidiary of Texas Utilities Company, acts as agent for the three System owner companies in the operation of jointly-owned power plants and is the licensee for the Comanche Peak facility.

OPERATING LICENSE APPLICATION STATUS

Texas Utilities Company submitted an application to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) in February, 1978, for operating licenses for the two Comanche Peak units, under construction since late 1974. The applications were subsequently accepted and the operational safety and environmental reviews began. Currently, Comanche Peak is well into this process. The NRC issued its Final Environmental Statement on Comanche Peak in September, 1981 and the Safety Evaluation Report on Comanche Peak in July, 1981.

A supplement to the Safety Evaluation Report is expected in the near future, covering safety related items that were still under consideration at the time of the Safety Evaluation Report. In addition the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, an independent and technical advisory group that reviews safety related matters, must complete its review before public hearings on Comanche Peak's operating license application can begin.

The public hearings, conducted by a NRC Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, will cover, as of late October, some 22 specific issues and questions raised by both the Licensing Board and citizen intervenor groups.

At this time, the first set of hearings are scheduled to begin December 2 in Ft. Worth.

At the conclusion of the hearings the Licensing Board considers the recommendations and conclusions found in the Final Environmental Statement, Safety Evaluation Report, Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards review and the record of the public hearings and makes a recommendation relative to the granting of operating licenses for the Comanche Peak units.

The cost of building an electric generating facility, whether coal or nuclear, has risen over the past years. Since the Texas Utilities Company System began building jointly owned generating plants about 10 years ago, the cost of building those units has risen steadily. The impacts of inflation upon the cost of borrowing money and upon the cost of labor and materials, as well as the effect of complying with stringent regulations, are shown in the following table comparing the construction cost per kilowatt of the various Texas Utilities Company lignite generating facilities

Lignite Units in Operation

<u>Station/Unit</u>	<u>In-service Date</u>	<u>Cost per Kilowatt</u>
Big Brown 1. & 2	1971 1972	\$125
Monticello 1 & 2	1974 1975	207
Martin Lake 1 & 2	1977 1978	275
Monticello 3	1978	327
Martin Lake 3	1979	338
Sandow 4	1981	450

Lignite Units Under Construction
and Scheduled for Completion

<u>Station/Unit</u>	<u>Estimated In-service Date</u>	<u>Estimated cost per Kilowatt</u>
Twin Oak 1 & 2	1988 1990	1012
Forest Grove	1989	1092
Martin Lake 4	1990	668

SAMPLE OF UNITS AROUND THE COUNTRY

<u>Electric Utility</u>	<u>Nuclear Unit(s)</u>	<u>Capacity (MW)</u>	<u>Estimated Commercial Operation</u>	<u>Estimated Total Cost (million \$)</u>	<u>Cost per Kilowatt(\$)</u>	<u>Source</u>
Arizona Public Service Co.	Palo Verde 1	1270	1983	3780 ^(b)	992	APS 10/81
	Palo Verde 2	1270	1984			
	Palo Verde 3	1270	1986			
Carolina Power & Light Co.	Shearon Harris 1	900	1985	2900	1611	Dean Witter Reyno Inc. 9/81
	Shearon Harris 2	900	1988			
Consumers Power Co.	Midland 1	500	1984	3100	2296	CPC 10/81
	Midland 2	850	1983			
Detroit Edison Co.	Enrico Fermi 2	1093	1983	1800	1646	Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) Cost & Schedule Study 7/81
Gulf States Utilities Co.	River Bend 1	940	1984	2700	2872	GSU 10/81
Houston Lighting & Power Co.	South Texas 1	1250 ^(a)	1984 - 1987 1986 - 1989	2700-4780 ^(b)	1080-1912	HL&P 10/81
	South Texas 2	1250				
Long Island Lighting Co.	Shoreham	820	1983	2500	3048	LILCO Prospectus 10/17/81
Louisiana Power & Light Co.	Waterford 3	1104	1983	1600	1449	LP&L 10/81
Niagara Mohawk Power Corp.	Nine Mile Point 2	1080	1986	3700	3426	LILCO Prospectus 10/7/81
Pennsylvania Power & Light Co.	Susquehanna 1	1050	1983	3500	1666	TVA Study 7/81
	Susquehanna 2	1050	1984			
Philadelphia Electric Co.	Limerick 1	1055	1985	4215	1998	PEC Prospectus 9/30/81
	Limerick 2	1055	1987			
Public Service Company of New Hampshire	Seabrook 1	1150	1984	3560	1547	PSC 10/81
	Seabrook 2	1150	1986			
Public Service Indiana	Marble Hill 1	1130 ^(a)	1986	4300	1902	Utility Spotlight 10/8/81
	Marble Hill 2	1130	1987			
Southern California Edison Co.	San Onofre 2	1100	1982	3350	1522	SCE 10/81
	San Onofre 3	1100	1983			
Union Electric Co.	Callaway 1	1150 ^(a)	1984	2100	1826	Nucleonics Week 10/15/81
Washington Public Power Supply System	WPPSS 1	1250	1986	3920	3136	TVA Study 7/81
	WPPSS 2	1100	1984	3103	2820	
	WPPSS 3	1240	1986	4367	3521	

(a) source for capacity; Atomic Industrial Forum, 1981 Map of nuclear power plants.

(b) does not include interest on construction funds.

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CASE ATTACHMENT B

Federal Emergency Management Agency

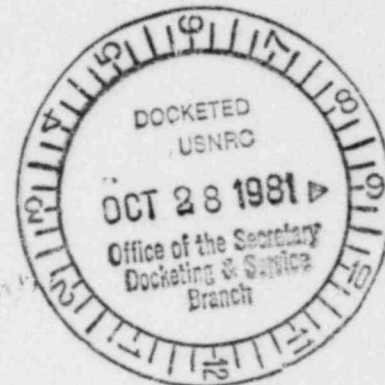
Region VI

Federal Center

Denton, Texas 76201

October 20, 1981

Mrs. Juanita Ellis
President, Citizens
Association for Sound Energy
1426 S. Polk
Dallas, Texas 75224



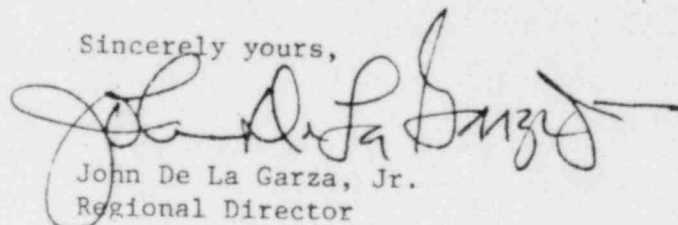
Dear Mrs. Ellis:

In response to your letter of October 10, 1981, concerning the status of state and local radiological emergency preparedness plans for the Comanche Peak nuclear plant operations, the following information is provided.

FEMA Region VI is unable at this time to assess the preparedness planning and capability of the State of Texas to make an off-site response to a nuclear accident at the Comanche Peak site. Texas officials have indicated their TARGETED date for submission of a plan for review by FEMA is June 1982. (This information applies to state planning as well as Hood and Somervell Counties planning.) As indicated to you earlier, current status of planning information should be obtained from the State.

If we can assist you further, please call on us.

Sincerely yours,


John De La Garza, Jr.
Regional Director

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

In the Matter of

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OPERATING LICENSE FOR COMANCHE
PEAK STEAM ELECTRIC STATION
UNITS #1 AND #2 (CPSES)

Docket Nos. 50-445
and 50-446

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

By my signature below, I hereby certify that true and correct copies of
CASE's 10/26/81 Motion to Postpone Hearings

have been sent to the names listed below this 26th day of October,
1981, by First Class mail locally and by Express Mail elsewhere.

Administrative Judge Marshall E. Miller
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel
Washington, D. C. 20555

David J. Preister, Esq.
Assistant Attorney General
Environmental Protection Division
P. O. Box 12548, Capitol Station
Austin, TX 78711

Dr. Kenneth A. McCollom
Dean, Division of Engineering,
Architecture and Technology
Oklahoma State University
Stillwater, Oklahoma 74074

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1060 W. Pipeline Rd.
Hurst, TX 76053

Dr. Richard Cole, Member
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Atomic Safety and Licensing
Board Panel
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

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Atomic Safety and Licensing
Appeal Panel
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Marjorie Ulman Rothschild, Esq.
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Docketing and Service Section
Office of the Secretary
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555



Juanita Ellis
(Mrs.) Juanita Ellis, President
CASE (Citizens Association for
Sound Energy)

cc: Homer Schmidt, Texas Utilities, Dallas