

The Light company

Houston Lighting & Power

South Texas Project Electric Generating Station P. O. Box 289 Wadsworth, Texas 77483

March 31, 1993

ST-HL-AE-4384

File No.: G04.02

10CFR50

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

South Texas Project

Units 1 and 2

Docket Nos. STN 50-498, STN 50-499

Date for Submittal of Change to Technical Specifications

In May, 1992, HL&P apprised the NRC in informal meetings of planned compensatory actions in the event that a channel of over-temperature delta temperature (OTAT) became inoperable due to failure of a reactor coolant system hot leg RTD. The compensatory action included placing the affected channel in trip and imposing more restrictive limits on Technical Specification setpoint deviations. Provisions were also made for being able to remove the channel from trip by increasing the pressurizer pressure reactor trip setpoint and imposing a greater penalty for axial flux differential. HL&P indicated at the time that appropriate Technical Specification changes would result from already planned analyses. The NRC found HL&P's compensatory actions acceptable and requested that the changes to the Technical Specifications be submitted in a reasonable time; i.e., about six months.

At this time no channel of overtemperature delta temperature is inoperable due to failure of a reactor coolant system hot leg RTD; therefore, neither unit at STP is in a condition where the compensatory action is in effect.

Changing the applicable Technical Specifications is part of an extensive reanalysis being performed by HL&P in support of fuel redesign and upgrade. HL&P originally planned to complete these reanalyses within the six months which supported the NRC request. Subsequently, a date for submittal of change to Technical Specification letter, ST-HL-AE-4277, was submitted to the NRC extending the date to March 31, 1993.

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In an effort to resolve a number of operational issues and to support the recovery of operational safety margins, the submittal for the fuel upgrade is being developed. The current resolution commitment for Veritrak uncertainty will be included with a number of generic and specific issues. This expanded scope is necessary to facilitate program improvements in setpoint methodology, and operational margins. It is our desire that this integrated package, while providing remedial action, become the basis for future nuclear safety-related analysis improvement and operational reliability increases through margin improvement and modernization of analysis methods. Due to the expanded scope and unforeseen emergent issues, HL&P must extend the date for submittal to June 1, 1993.

There are no safety consequences from this delay. The NRC Senior Resident and Project Manager have been apprised of the change.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. A. W. Harrison at (512) 972-7298 or me at (512) 972-7138.


S. L. Rosen
Vice President,
Nuclear Engineering

HRP/pla

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Regional Administrator, Region IV
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 400
Arlington, TX 76011

Project Manager
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

J. I. Tapia
Senior Resident Inspector
c/o U. S. Nuclear Regulatory
Commission
P. O. Box 910
Bay City, TX 77414

J. R. Newman, Esquire
Newman & Holtzinger, P.C., STE 1000
1615 L Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20036

D. E. Ward/T. M. Puckett
Central Power and Light Company
P. O. Box 2121
Corpus Christi, TX 78403

J. C. Lanier/M. B. Lee
City of Austin
Electric Utility Department
721 Barton Springs Road
Austin, TX 78704

K. J. Fiedler/M. T. Hardt
City Public Service
P. O. Box 1771
San Antonio, TX 78296

Rufus S. Scott
Associate General Counsel
Houston Lighting & Power Company
P. O. Box 61867
Houston, TX 77208

Institute of Nuclear Power
Operations - Records Center
1100 Circle 75 Parkway, #1500
Atlanta, GA 30339-3064

Dr. Joseph M. Hendrie
50 Bellport Lane
Bellport, NY 11713

D. K. Lackner
Bureau of Radiation Control
Texas Department of Health
1100 West 49th Street
Austin, TX 78756-3189

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Comm.
Attn: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555