

The Light company

Houston Lighting & Power South Texas Project Electric Generating Station P. O. Box 289 Wadsworth, Texas 77483

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

South Texas Project Electric Generating Station
Units 1 and 2
Docket Nos. STN 50-498 and 50-499
Special Report Regarding Inoperable
Primary Meteorological Tower Instrument

Pursuant to the South Texas Project Electric Generating Station
Technical Specification 3.3.3.4, "Meteorological Instrumentation," Houston
Lighting & Power (HL&P) submits the attached Special Report regarding an
inoperable primary meteorological tower instrument.

If you should have any questions on this matter, please contact
Mr. C. A. Ayala at (512) 972-8628 or myself at (512) 972-7205.

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CAA/sgs

Attachments: Special Report Regarding Inoperable
Primary Meteorological Tower Instrument

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Houston Lighting & Power Company
South Texas Project Electric Generating Station

ST-HL-AE-3814
File No.: G02
Page 2

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L4/NRC/

South Texas Project Electric Generating Station
Units 1 and 2
Docket Nos. STN 50-498 and 50-499
Special Report Regarding Inoperable
Primary Meteorological Tower Instrument

DESCRIPTION OF EVENT:

On June 16, 1991 at 1450, the Primary Meteorological Tower wind direction sensor at the 60 meter elevation was declared inoperable due to an indication problem, resulting in entry into the Technical Specification 3.3.3.4 action statement. This action statement requires the instrumentation be restored within seven days or a special report be submitted to the NRC. Preliminary investigation revealed that the output of the sensor did not correlate to the output of the processor. A new sensor was requisitioned from the warehouse and was installed on June 20th. However, it could not satisfy calibration tolerances. This depleted the onsite spare inventory for this component. Another sensor was requisitioned from the manufacturer and was installed. Investigation revealed a corroded termination board in the junction box on the tower adding to the inability of the sensor and processor to meet calibration tolerances. The corrosion was cleaned and the calibration was completed successfully on June 27th.

The South Texas Project Electric Generating Station has two meteorological towers. The Primary Tower consists of a 60 meter tower with instruments located at the 10 meter and 60 meter levels. The Backup Tower, located approximately one-half mile south of the Primary Tower, consists of a 10 meter tower with one set of instruments at the 10 meter level.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

The primary meteorological tower was restored to operable status on June 27, 1991.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Primary Meteorological Tower 10 meter wind direction and the Backup Meteorological Tower instruments were unaffected by this event and could have been used if required for performance of offsite dose calculations.

The 60-meter wind direction sensor behavior was originally identified as being anomalous on May 30th. However, the tower was not declared inoperable by Plant Operations until June 16th. This concern is being investigated. A supplemental report describing results of this investigation will be provided by July 31, 1991.