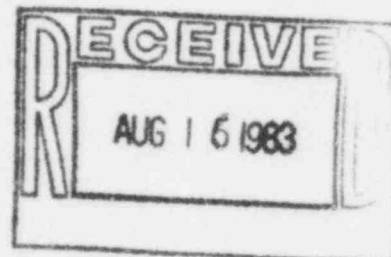


The Light company

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

August 12, 1983
ST-HL-AE-988
File Number: G3.3

Mr. John T. Collins
Regional Administrator, Region IV
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000
Arlington, Texas 76011



Dear Mr. Collins:

South Texas Project
Units 1 & 2
Docket Nos. STN 50-498, STN 50-499
Revised Response to IE Bulletin 80-19

By letter dated August 26, 1980, Houston Lighting & Power Company (HL&P) submitted a response to NRC IE Bulletin 80-19. The response indicated that a review of the South Texas Project (STP) Reactor Protection System (RPS) had been performed to determine if C. P. Clare Model HG2X-1011 mercury-wetted relays were used in the STP RPS and that no mercury-wetted relays of any type were used in the STP RPS.

HL&P has determined that our original August 26, 1980 response was not entirely correct. Mercury-wetted relays are being used in the Westinghouse (W) 7300 Process Control and Protection System. These relays are hermetically sealed and used for temperature channel test inputs from resistor thermal devices. These relays are not used in matrix logic applications or in scram circuits as described in the subject Bulletin.

HL&P has recently reported a deficiency pursuant to 10CFR50.55(e) on July 1, 1983 concerning the mercury relays in the W 7300 Process Control Panel Protection System. During seismic testing of the temperature channel test card, contact bounce was experienced in the mercury relay utilized on this card. This intermittent contact bounce will result in signal saturation of the downstream RTD Amplifier (NRA) card in the T(hot) and T(cold) circuits of the W 7300 Process Control and Protection System. Saturation of the NRA card in non-filtered applications (as is the case for STP) could delay initiation of the Overtemperature-Delta T and Overpower-Delta T trips. Such

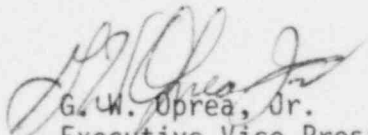
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saturation would only occur as a result of contact bounce induced by a seismic event coincident with the demand for such a trip. The suspect relays will be replaced.

If you should have any questions concerning this item, please contact Mr. Michael E. Powell at (713) 877-3281.

Very truly yours,


G. W. Oprea, Jr.
Executive Vice President

MEP/bjc

Houston Lighting & Power Company

cc: G. W. Oprea, Jr.

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Revision Date 07-05-83