

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Houston Lighting & Power Company
South Texas Project, Unit 1

Docket: 50-498
License: NPF-76

During an NRC inspection conducted on July 28 through September 7, 1996, a violation of NRC requirements was identified. In accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedure for NRC Enforcement Actions," NUREG-1600, the violation is listed below:

Technical Specification 6.8.1.a requires, in part, that written procedures be established, implemented, and maintained concerning the applicable procedures recommended in Appendix A of Regulatory Guide 1.33, Revision 2, February 1978. Regulatory Guide 1.33, Appendix A, recommends, in part, that procedures should be written covering surveillance tests and calibrations of alarm devices.

Technical Specification Surveillance Requirement 4.2.1.1 states, in part, that the indicated axial flux difference shall be determined to be within its limits during power operation above 15 percent of rated thermal power. The bases for this specification states, in part, that provisions for monitoring the axial flux difference on an automatic basis are provided from the plant process computer through the axial flux difference monitor alarm.

Contrary to the above, on and before August 23, 1996, the licensee failed to establish written procedures covering surveillance tests and calibrations of the axial flux difference monitor alarm device following system maintenance. As a result, on August 23, 1996, during power operations above 15 percent of rated thermal power, the plant process computer was returned to service following routine maintenance with the alarm device setpoint out of calibration because incorrect equation constants had been entered into the computer memory.

This is a Level IV violation (Supplement I) (498;499/96006-03).

Pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 2.201, Houston Lighting and Power Company is hereby required to submit a written statement or explanation to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Document Control Desk, Washington, D.C. 20555 with a copy to the Regional Administrator, Region IV, and a copy to the NRC Resident Inspector at the facility that is the subject of this Notice, within 30 days of the date of the letter transmitting this Notice of Violation (Notice). This reply should be clearly marked as a "Reply to a Notice of Violation" and should include for each violation: (1) the reason for the violation, or, if contested, the basis for disputing the violation, (2) the corrective steps that have been taken and the results achieved, (3) the corrective steps that will be taken to avoid further violations, and (4) the date when full compliance will be achieved. Your response may reference or include previously docketed correspondence, if the correspondence adequately addresses the required response. If an adequate reply is not received within the time specified in this Notice, an order or a Demand for Information may be issued as to why the license should not be modified, suspended, or revoked, or why such other action as may be proper should not be taken. Where good cause is shown, consideration will be given to extending the response time.

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Because your response will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR), to the extent possible, it should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be placed in the PDR without redaction. If personal privacy or proprietary information is necessary to provide an acceptable response, then please provide a bracketed copy of your response that identifies the information that should be protected and a redacted copy of your response that deletes such information. If you request withholding of such material, you must specifically identify the portions of your response that you seek to have withheld and provide in detail the bases for your claim of withholding (e.g., explain why the disclosure of information will create an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy or provide the information required by 10 CFR 2.790(b) to support a request for withholding confidential commercial or financial information). If safeguards information is necessary to provide an acceptable response, please provide the level of protection described in 10 CFR 73.21.

Dated at Arlington, Texas,
this 2nd day of October 1996