

December 11, 1996

Mr. William T. Cottle
Executive Vice-President &
General Manager, Nuclear
Houston Lighting & Power Company
South Texas Project Electric
Generating Station
P. O. Box 289
Wadsworth, TX 77483

SUBJECT: INSERVICE INSPECTION PROGRAM - RELIEF REQUEST RR-ENG-14, SOUTH TEXAS
PROJECT, UNITS 1 AND 2 (STP) (TAC NOS. M95542 AND M95543)

Dear Mr. Cottle:

By letter dated May 31, 1996, Houston Lighting & Power Company (HL&P) submitted a request for temporary relief from the ASME Code, Section XI requirements, to repair flaws in the Essential Cooling Water System piping. The NRC staff has reviewed the request as discussed in the enclosed Safety Evaluation.

The staff concludes that HL&P's proposed alternative is authorized by law and will not endanger life or property or the common defense and security and is otherwise in the public interest giving due consideration to the burden upon HL&P that could result if the Code requirements were imposed. Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(6)(i), the alternative is imposed until the next scheduled outage exceeding 30 days, but no later than the next refueling outage, for the affected unit. At that time a Code repair will be performed.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

William D. Beckner, Project Director
Project Directorate IV-1
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-498 and 50-499

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "William D. Beckner", is written over a horizontal line.

William D. Beckner, Project Director
Project Directorate IV-1
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-498 and 50-499

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

Mr. William T. Cottle
Houston Lighting & Power Company

South Texas, Units 1 & 2

cc:

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