



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV

611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-8064

NOV 15 1996

William T. Cottle, Group Vice
President, Nuclear
Houston Lighting & Power Company
P.O. Box 289
Wadsworth, Texas 77483

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 50-498/96-23; 50-499/96-23

Dear Mr. Cottle:

An NRC inspection was conducted October 29 through November 1, 1996, at your South Texas Project Electric Generating Station, Units 1 and 2, reactor facilities. The enclosed report presents the scope and results of that inspection.

The inspection included implementation of your emergency plan and procedures during your biennial emergency preparedness exercise. The results indicated that you successfully demonstrated the capability to implement your approved emergency plan. Overall performance was very good; however, one exercise weakness was identified for failure to communicate timely protective measures to offsite field teams. The failure could have affected personnel safety and the ability to obtain timely field measurements and samples. Your staff questioned the characterization of the exercise weakness during a followup discussion on November 12, 1996.

Exercise weaknesses, according to 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix E.IV.F.2.g, are inspection findings that need to be corrected by the licensee. You are requested to provide this office with a description of your corrective measures, and your schedule for completing these actions, within 30 days after receipt of this letter.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR).

Should you have any questions concerning this inspection, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,

for *San T. Barnes*
Thomas P. Gwynn, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

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PDR ADOCK 05000498
Q PDR

Docket Nos.: 50-498; 50-499
License Nos.: NPF-76; NPF-80

Enclosure:
NRC Inspection Report
50-498/96-23; 50-499/96-23

cc w/enclosure:
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Little Harbor Consultants, Inc
44 Nichols Road
Cohasset, MA 02025-1166

E-Mail report to D. Nelson (DJN)

E-Mail report to NRR Event Tracking System (IPAS)

bcc to DMB (IE35)

bcc distrib. by RIV:

L. J. Callan

DRP Director

Branch Chief (DRP/A)

Project Engineer (DRP/A)

Branch Chief (DRP/TSS)

Leah Tremper (OC/LFDCB, MS: TWFN 9E10)

T. Essig (NRR/DRPM/PERB)

Resident Inspector

DRS-PSB

MIS System

RIV File

R. Bachmann, OGC (MS: 15-B-18)

DRS AI 96-G-0136

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| D:DRP | | D:DRS | | | | | | | |
| JEDyer | <i>[Signature]</i> | TPGwynn | <i>[Signature]</i> | | | | | | |
| 11/14/96 | | 11/14/96 | | | | | | | |

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E-Mail report to NRR Event Tracking System (IPAS)

bcc to DMB (IE35)

bcc distrib. by RIV:

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|--|--------------------------------|
| L. J. Callan | Resident Inspector |
| DRP Director | DRS-PSB |
| Branch Chief (DRP/A) | MIS System |
| Project Engineer (DRP/A) | RIV File |
| Branch Chief (DRP/TSS) | R. Bachmann, OGC (MS: 15-B-18) |
| Leah Tremper (OC/LFDCB, MS: TWFN 9E10) | |
| T. Essig (NRR/DRPM/PERB) | |

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| JEDyer | <i>JED</i> | TPGwynn | <i>TPG</i> | | | | | | |
| 11/14/96 | | 11/14/96 | | | | | | | |

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