

The Light company

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August 29, 1985
ST-HL-AE-1310
File No.: G25

Mr. George W. Knighton, Chief
Licensing Branch No. 3
Division of Licensing
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

South Texas Project
Units 1 & 2
Docket Nos. STN 50-498, STN 50-499
Request for Approval to Implement
ASME Subsection NF, Section III,
Division 1, Code Case N-413, "Minimum
Size of Fillet Welds for Linear
Type Supports"

Reference 1) Letter Number ST-HL-AE-1185 dated February 25, 1985
from M. R. Wisenburg, Manager, Nuclear Licensing
to Mr. H. L. Thompson, Jr., Director, Division of
Licensing, USNRC

Dear Mr. Knighton:

Houston Lighting & Power Company (HL&P) intends to utilize an ASME code case in accordance with footnote 6 to 10CFR50.55a pursuant to 10CFR50.55a(a)(3) for the South Texas Project (STP). This code case is N-413, titled "Minimum Size of Fillet Welds for Linear Type Supports," Section 3, Division 1, Subsection NF. This code case permits weld sizes other than those listed in Subsection NF, Table NF-3324.5(d)(1)-1 and Appendix XVII, Table XVII-2452.1-1 provided that the allowable stress limits of NF-3324.5(a)(1) are met and weld sizes are specified on the design drawings. HL&P intends to apply code case N-413 criteria to all welds specified on the pipe support drawing or detail.

To comply with the code case, the following requirements will be met:

1. Table NF-3324.5(a)(1) will be used to define allowable stresses for fillet welds. This table is the present form of Table NF-3392.1-1 of the 1974 Edition with Addenda through Winter

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1975 Code which is the Code of record for piping systems at STP. The new table defines an allowable weld stress of 21 ksi rather than 18 ksi for materials whose tensile strength ranges are 58 ksi to 70 ksi. Present design practices meet the other requirements of this table. These modifications are appropriate in that they are the same allowables used by AISC for the #E70xx electrodes used at STP.

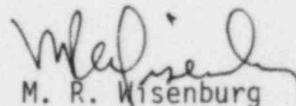
2. Welding procedures and qualifications are in accordance with Reference 1.
3. The minimum weld size will be 3/16 inches.
4. Weld sizes will be specified on the design drawings.
5. This code case will be listed on the N-5 Data Reports for applicable welds within the NF Jurisdictional Boundary.

These actions will provide a significantly more practical criterion for visual inspection of nonintegral attachment welds on pipe support structures and related components while continuing to maintain an acceptable level of safety.

These changes will be reflected in a future amendment of the FSAR following your approval.

If you should have any questions on this matter, please contact Mr. M. E. Powell at (713) 993-1328.

Very truly yours,


M. R. Wisenburg
Manager, Nuclear Licensing

MEP/as

cc:

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