



50-2199

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

April 4, 1997

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: COMPLETION OF LICENSING ACTION FOR GENERIC LETTER 92-08, "THERMO-LAG 330-1 FIRE BARRIERS," DATED DECEMBER 17, 1992, FOR SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT (STP), UNITS 1 AND 2 (TAC NOS. M85606 AND M85607)

Dear Mr. Cottle:

By letters dated April 16 and 26, 1993; February 10 and 15, July 27, and December 19, 1994; March 28, April 24, May 22, and December 13 and 20, 1995; and August 26 and November 6, 1996; Houston Lighting & Power Company (HL&P) responded to Generic Letter (GL) 92-08, "Thermo-Lag 330-1 Fire Barriers," dated December 17, 1992, and follow-up requests for additional information dated June 9 and December 22, 1993; September 19 and December 29, 1994; March 1 and October 23, 1995; and July 26 and September 11, 1996; in regard to Thermo-Lag 330-1 fire barriers installed at STP.

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has reviewed HL&P's letters. HL&P's December 20, 1995, letter states that 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix R reanalyses have been performed on all fire areas inside and outside containment. As a result of these reanalyses, HL&P has determined that only one fire area (FA07) requires Thermo-Lag wrap for compliance with Appendix R (HL&P has submitted a deviation for FA07, as discussed below). This area is outside containment. HL&P has determined that there are no installations inside containment that require Thermo-Lag wrap for compliance to provisions of Appendix R. HL&P's November 6, 1996, letter states that modifications have been initiated to remove the Thermo-Lag wrap that is no longer required, and removal from both units is expected to be completed by the end of 1998. HL&P further states that upon completion of Thermo-Lag removal and NRC approval of the FA07 suppression deviation, Thermo-Lag concerns will no longer pertain to STP and STP will remain in full compliance with its commitments to 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix R. On the basis of its review, the staff has determined that you have provided the information requested in GL 92-08 and the actions tracked by TAC Nos. M85606 and M85607 are complete.

However, based on HL&P's responses dated December 19, 1994; and March 28, April 24, and December 20, 1995; there remain open issues involving ampacity derating of Thermo-Lag 330-1 which emerged as a result of the GL 92-08 review. The resolution of these ampacity derating issues are being treated generically and tracked by TAC No. M82809.

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Mr. William T. Cottle

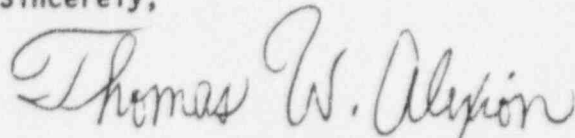
- 2 -

You also submitted a deviation request by letters dated April 13 and September 14, 1995, and November 6, 1996. The staff is evaluating this request under TAC Nos. M92177 and M92178 as a separate issue from GL 92-08.

You should retain all documentation related to the resolution of the concerns with Thermo-Lag 330-1 fire barrier systems for future NRC audits or inspections.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact T. Alexion at 301-415-1326.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas W. Alexion".

Thomas W. Alexion, Project Manager
Project Directorate IV-1
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-498 and 50-499

cc: See next page

Mr. William T. Cottle

- 2 -

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Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Thomas W. Alexion, Project Manager
Project Directorate IV-1
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-498 and 50-499

cc: See next page

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NAME	TAlexion/vw	CHawes CMH	LMarsh SN/vw	JCalvo MC
DATE	3/24/97	3/24/97	03/28/97	4/2/97
COPY	YES/NO	YES/NO	YES/NO	YES/NO

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Mr. William T. Cottle
Houston Lighting & Power Company

cc:

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