Nuclear Operating Company

South Texas Project Electric Generating Station P.O. Box 289 Wadsworth, Texas 77483

June 9, 2005
NOC-AE-05001890
10CFR50.54(f)

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
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Rockville, MD 20852-2738

South Texas Project
Units 1 & 2
Docket Nos. STN 50-498, STN 50-499
Response to NRC Bulletin 2004-01,
"Inspection of Alloy 82/182/600 Materials Used in the Fabrication of Pressurizer Penetrations and Steam Space Piping Connections at Pressurized-Water Reactors"

Reference: Letter, Thomas J. Jordan to NRC Document Control Desk, "Response to NRC Bulletin 2004-01,"Inspection of Alloy 82/182/600 Materials Used in the Fabrication of Pressurizer Penetrations and Steam Space Piping Connections at Pressurized-Water Reactors," dated July 27, 2004 (NOC-AE-04001762)

In accordance with 10CFR50.54(f), STP Nuclear Operating Company submits the following response to Requested Information Item No. 2 in Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Bulletin 2004-01, "Inspection of Alloy 82/182/600 Material used in the Fabrication of Pressurizer Penetrations and Steam Space Piping Connections at Pressurized-Water Reactors," dated May 28, 2004.

NRC Bulletin 2004-01 Requested Information Item No. 2 requests the results of inspections be provided to the NRC within 60 days of a plant restart following the inspection of the Alloy 82/182 pressurizer penetrations and steam space piping connections for STPEGS Units 1 and 2. The requested information is provided as an attachment to this letter for STPEGS Unit 1, which completed the 12th Refueling Outage on April 16, 2005.

If there are any questions regarding this additional information, please contact Mr. Scott Head at (361) 972-7136 or me at (361) 972-7902.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on June 9, 2005

T. J. Jordan
Vice President of Engineering

jcy/jal

Attachment: Response to NRC Bulletin 2004-01 Requested Information Item No. 2

STI: 31886206

AH10

cc:

(paper copy)

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**Response to NRC Bulletin 2004-01 Requested Information Item No. 2, "Inspection of Alloy 82/182/600 Materials Used in the Fabrication of Pressurizer Penetrations and Steam Space Piping Connections At Pressurized-Water Reactors"**

**NRC Request:**

*Within 60 days of plant restart following the next inspection of the Alloy 82/182/600 pressurizer penetrations and steam space piping connections, the subject PWR licensees should either:*

*(a) submit to the NRC a statement indicating that the inspections described in the licensee's response to item (1)(c) of this bulletin were completed and a description of the as-found condition of the pressurizer shell, any findings of relevant indications of through-wall leakage, followup NDE performed to characterize flaws in leaking penetrations or steam space piping connections, a summary of all relevant indications found by NDE, a summary of the disposition of any findings of boric acid, and any corrective actions taken and/or repairs made as a result of the indications found,*

*or*

*(b) if the licensee was unable to complete the inspections described in response to item (1)(c) of this bulletin, submit to the NRC a summary of the inspections performed, the extent of the inspections, the methods used, a description of the as-found condition of the pressurizer shell, any findings of relevant indications of through-wall leakage, followup NDE performed to characterize flaws in leaking penetrations or steam space piping connections, a summary of all relevant indications found by NDE, a summary of the disposition of any findings of boric acid, and any corrective actions taken and/or repairs made as a result of the indications found. In addition, supplement the answer which you provided to item (1)(d) above to explain why the inspections that you completed were adequate for the purpose of maintaining the integrity of your facility's RCPB and for meeting all applicable regulatory requirements which pertain to your facility.*

*For lines attached directly to the pressurizer, with the exception of the surge line, the information requested in (1) and (2) above should be provided for any locations, including those remote from the pressurizer shell, which contain Alloy 82/182/600 materials which are exposed to conditions similar to those of the pressurizer environment.*

**STPNOC Response:**

STPNOC completed the Unit 1 12th Refueling Outage (1RE12) on April 16, 2005 and submits the information below describing the results of the Alloy 82/182 pressurizer penetration and steam space piping connection inspections.

STPNOC performed "Bare Metal Visual" (BMV) inspections on all steam space nozzles during the Unit 1 refueling outage (1RE12) in the Spring of 2005. There was no evidence indicating any pressure boundary leakage from these nozzle safe ends of the pressurizer, nor was there any evidence of corrosion or wastage. A complete BMV examination was achieved at each of the nozzle safe ends. A VT-1 visual examination method was performed by a certified Level II visual examiner using a flashlight and an 18% neutral gray card with 1/32" width black line for assuring adequate lighting for resolution of any indications. A nondestructive examination report was written to document these examinations. Similar inspections are scheduled for subsequent refueling outages.