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NRC AUTHORIZES LOW POWER TESTING
OF COMANCHE PEAK 2 REACTOR

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation issued a license on February 2 to Texas Utilities Electric Company authorizing the loading of fuel and low-power testing (up to five percent of full power) of Unit 2 of the Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station.

Authorization for the staff to issue a full-power operating license will have to come from the Commission itself once the fuel-load and low-power testing program is successfully completed. A license authorizing full-power operation of Unit 1 at the Comanche Peak station was issued on April 17, 1990.

The nuclear station is located about 40 miles southwest of Ft. Worth, TX. Both Units 1 and 2 use pressurized water reactors and at full power each has an electrical output capacity of about 1150 megawatts.

Inspectors from the NRC's regional office in Arlington, TX, will provide 24-hour coverage during portions of the fuel loading, initial criticality and power escalation (to not more than five percent of full power) program.

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