May 8, 2000

Mr. William T. Cottle
President and Chief Executive Officer
STP Nuclear Operating Company
South Texas Project Electric
Generating Station
P. O. Box 289
Wadsworth, TX 77483

SUBJECT: SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT, UNITS 1 AND 2 - REVISION TO TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION BASES (TAC NO. MA4828 AND MA4829)

Dear Mr. Cottle:

By letter dated February 17, 1999, as supplemented April 27, 2000, STP Nuclear Operating Company (STPNOC) provided the NRC with changes to Technical Specification (TS) Bases Sections 3/4.6.1.7, "Containment Ventilation System," and 3/4.7.7, "Control Room Makeup and Cleanup Filtration System," to correct the reference on allowed leakage rates for the containment purge and exhaust supply valves and to reflect the 92-day surveillance test interval instead of the 31-day test interval, respectively.

The TS Bases pages you provided, corrected to reflect changes made as a result of Amendments 59 and 47 and 84 and 71, and updated to reflect changes made to these pages by Amendments 109 and 96 for Units 1 and 2 and Amendment 100 for Unit 2 only, are enclosed to ensure consistency in TS Bases pages.

Sincerely,

/RA/

John A. Nakoski, Senior Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate IV & Decommissioning
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-498 and 50-499

Enclosure: Bases pages B 3/4 6-3 & B 3/4 7-4

cc w/encl: See next page

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CONTAINMENT VENTILATION SYSTEM (Continued)

fore, the SITE BOUNDARY dose guidelines of 10 CFR 100 would not be exceeded in the event of an accident during containment PURGING operation.

Leakage integrity tests with a maximum allowable leakage rate for containment purge supply and exhaust supply valves will provide early indication of resilient material seal degradation and will allow opportunity for repair before gross leakage failures could develop. Allowed leakage rates will be governed by the Containment Leakage Rate Program.

3/4.6.2 DEPRESSURIZATION AND COOLING SYSTEMS

3/4.6.2.1 CONTAINMENT SPRAY SYSTEM

The OPERABILITY of the Containment Spray System ensures that containment depressurization and cooling capability will be available in the event of a LOCA or steam line break. The pressure reduction and resultant lower containment leakage rate are consistent with the assumptions used in the safety analyses.

The Containment Spray System and the Containment Cooling System both provide post-accident cooling of the containment atmosphere. However, the Containment Spray System also provides a mechanism for removing iodine from the containment atmosphere and therefore the time requirements for restoring an inoperable Spray System to OPERABLE status have been maintained consistent with that assigned other inoperable ESF equipment

3/4.6.2.2 RECIRCULATION FLUID PH CONTROL SYSTEM

The operability of the recirculation fluid pH control system ensures that there is sufficient trisodium phosphate available in containment to guarantee a sump pH of $\geq$7.0 during the recirculation phase of a postulated LOCA. This pH level is required to reduce the potential for chloride induced stress corrosion of austenitic stainless steel and assure the retention of iodine in the recirculating fluid. The specified amount of TSP will result in a recirculation fluid pH between 7.0 and 9.5.

3/4.6.2.3 CONTAINMENT COOLING SYSTEM

The OPERABILITY of the Containment Cooling System ensures that: (1) the containment air temperature will be maintained within limits during normal operation, and (2) adequate heat removal capacity is available when operated in conjunction with the Containment Spray Systems during post-LOCA conditions.

The limitations on minimum water level and maximum temperature are based on providing a 30-day cooling water supply to safety-related equipment without exceeding its design basis temperature and is consistent with the recommendations of Regulatory Guide 1.27, "Ultimate Heat Sink for Nuclear Plants," March 1974.

3/4.7.6 (Not used)

3/4.7.7 CONTROL ROOM MAKEUP AND CLEANUP FILTRATION SYSTEM

The OPERABILITY of the Control Room Makeup and Cleanup Filtration System ensures that: (1) the ambient air temperature does not exceed the allowable temperature for continuous-duty rating for the equipment and instrumentation cooled by this system, and (2) the control room will remain habitable for operations personnel during and following all credible accident conditions. Operation of the system with the heaters operating for at least 10 continuous hours in a 92-day period is sufficient to reduce the buildup of moisture on the adsorbers and HEPA filters. The OPERABILITY of this system in conjunction with control room design provisions is based on limiting the radiation exposure to personnel occupying the control room to 5 rems or less whole body, or its equivalent. This limitation is consistent with the requirements of General Design Criterion 19 of Appendix A, 10 CFR Part 50. ANSI N510-1980 will be used as a procedural guide for surveillance testing.

3/4.7.8 FUEL HANDLING BUILDING EXHAUST AIR SYSTEM

The OPERABILITY of the Fuel Handling Building Exhaust Air System ensures that radioactive materials leaking from the ECCS equipment within the FHB following a LOCA are filtered prior to reaching the environment. Operation of the system with the heaters operating for the least 10 continuous hours in a 31-day period is sufficient to reduce the buildup of moisture on the adsorbers and HEPA filters. The operation of this system and the resultant effect on offsite dosage calculations was assumed in the safety analyses. ANSI N510-1980 will be used as a procedural guide for surveillance testing.

For Unit 2 only, from the date of amendment issuance through July 14, 1999, the limited allowed outage time is allowed for all of components of the Fuel Handling Building Exhaust Air System to be out of service in recognition of the fact that there are common plenums and the repair to the exhaust booster fan requires opening or entry into these plenums. This is acceptable based on the low probability of a design basis event in the brief allowed outage time and because administrative controls are imposed on the activities that provide for compensatory action to restore integrity of the system.

3/4.7.9 (Not Used)