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

April 17, 2001
NOC-AE-01001084
File No.: G20.02.02
G21.02.02
10CFR50.59
STI: 31273080

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

South Texas Project
Units 1 and 2
Docket Nos. STN 50-498, STN 50-499
Technical Specification Bases Change

The South Texas Project Technical Specification Bases Section 3/4.2.5 "DNB Parameters" has been changed pursuant to 10CFR50.59. This change revises the methodology for calculating Reactor Coolant System flow. This change in methodology results in an increase to the Baseline Calorimetric Flow that is used to calculate Reactor Coolant System Flow using the elbow tap methodology.

If there are any questions, please contact S. M. Head at (361) 972-7136 or me at (361) 972-7795.

D. A. Leazar
Director
Nuclear Fuel and
Analysis

mkj

Attachment: Revised Technical Specification Bases Page 3/4 2-6 (1 page)

IE47

cc:

Ellis W. Merschoff
Regional Administrator, Region IV
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 400
Arlington, Texas 76011-8064

John A. Nakoski
Addressee Only
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Project Manager, Mail Stop OWFN/7-D-1
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Mohan C. Thadani
Addressee Only
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Project Manager, Mail Stop OWFN/7-D-1
Washington, DC 20555

Cornelius F. O'Keefe
c/o U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
P. O. Box 910
Bay City, TX 77404-0910

A. H. Gutterman, Esquire
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius
1800 M. Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20036-5869

M. T. Hardt/W. C. Gunst
City Public Service
P. O. Box 1771
San Antonio, TX 78296

A. Ramirez/C. M. Canady
City of Austin
Electric Utility Department
721 Barton Springs Road
Austin, TX 78704

Jon C. Wood
Matthews & Branscomb
112 East Pecan, Suite 1100
San Antonio, Texas 78205-3692

Institute of Nuclear Power
Operations - Records Center
700 Galleria Parkway
Atlanta, GA 30339-5957

Richard A. Ratliff
Bureau of Radiation Control
Texas Department of Health
1100 West 49th Street
Austin, TX 78756-3189

R. L. Balcom/D. G. Tees
Reliant Energy, Inc.
P. O. Box 1700
Houston, TX 77251

C. A. Johnson/R. P. Powers
AEP - Central Power and Light Company
P. O. Box 289, Mail Code: N5012
Wadsworth, TX 77483

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

3/4.2.5 DNB PARAMETERS (continued)

The value for thermal design RCS flow rate presented in Technical Specification 3.2.5 is an analytical limit. The minimum thermal design RCS flow rate with Model E Steam Generators is 370,000 gpm, and with Model Delta 94 Steam Generators is 392,000 gpm. To provide additional operating margin, a higher value for thermal design flow rate may be used if supported by cycle specific analysis. The minimum measured flow in the Core Operating Limits Report is the thermal design flow rate assumed for a particular cycle plus RCS flow measurement uncertainties. The RCS flow measurement uncertainty is 2.8% using the precision heat balance method or 2.1% using the elbow tap methods described in WCAP 15287, "RCS Flow Measurement for the South Texas Projects Using Elbow Tap Methodology", dated August, 1999. The elbow tap Dp measurement uncertainty presumes that elbow tap Dp measurements are obtained from either QDPS or the plant process computer. Based on instrument uncertainty assumptions, RCS flow measurements using either the precision heat balance or the elbow tap Dp measurement methods are to be performed at greater than or equal to 90% RTP at the beginning of a new fuel cycle.

The 12-hour periodic surveillance of these parameters through instrument readout is sufficient to ensure that the parameters are restored within their limits following load changes and other expected transient operation.