

September 13, 2001

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 - ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENTS
REGARDING RELOCATION OF TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS TO THE
TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS MANUAL (TAC NOS. MB2122 AND MB2123)

Dear Mr. Cottle:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 132 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-76 and Amendment No. 121 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-80 for the South Texas Project, Units 1 and 2, respectively. The amendments consist of changes to the Technical Specifications (TSs) in response to your application dated May 24, 2001.

The amendments revise the TSs requirements and authorize revision of the Technical Requirements Manual requirements applicable to the refueling machine and auxiliary hoist used during movement of thimble plugs, drive rods or fuel assemblies within the reactor vessel. Related changes to the Bases are also made.

A copy of our related Safety Evaluation is also enclosed. The Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's next biweekly *Federal Register* notice.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Mohan Thadani, Senior Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate IV
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-498 and 50-499

Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 132 to NPF-76
2. Amendment No. 121 to NPF-80
3. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

September 13, 2001

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 - ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENTS
REGARDING RELOCATION OF TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS TO THE
TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS MANUAL (TAC NOS. MB2122 AND MB2123)

Dear Mr. Cottle:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 132 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-76 and Amendment No. 121 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-80 for the South Texas Project, Units 1 and 2, respectively. The amendments consist of changes to the Technical Specifications (TSs) in response to your application dated May 24, 2001.

The amendments revise the TSs requirements and authorize revision of the Technical Requirements Manual requirements applicable to the refueling machine and auxiliary hoist used during movement of thimble plugs, drive rods or fuel assemblies within the reactor vessel. Related changes to the Bases are also made.

A copy of our related Safety Evaluation is also enclosed. The Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's next biweekly *Federal Register* notice.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Mohan Thadani, Senior Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate IV
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-498 and 50-499

Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 132 to NPF-76
2. Amendment No. 121 to NPF-80
3. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

DISTRIBUTION:

PUBLIC	RidsNrrDlpmLpdiv (S.Richards)	RidsNrrLAMMcAllister
PDIV-1 r/f	RidsNrrPMMThadani	RidsNrrDripRtsb (W.Beckner)
G. Hill (4)	RidsNrrPMJNakoski	RidsAcrrAcnwMailCenter
RidsOgcRp	RidsRgn4MailCenter (D. Graves, L. Hurley, D. Bujol)	
RidsNrrDlpmLpdiv1 (RGramm)		

ACCESSION NO: ML012260128

*No legal objection

OFFICE	PDIV-1/PM	PDIV-D/LA	TSB/BC	OGC/NLO*	PDIV-1/SC
NAME	MThadani	MMcAllister	WBeckner	AHodgdon	RGramm
DATE	08/29/01	08/23/01	08/31/01	09/06/01	09/12/01

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

STP NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY

DOCKET NO. 50-498

SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT, UNIT 1

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 132
License No. NPF-76

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
 - A. The application for amendment by STP Nuclear Operating Company* acting on behalf of itself and for Houston Lighting & Power Company (HL&P), the City Public Service Board of San Antonio (CPS), Central Power and Light Company (CPL), and the City of Austin, Texas (COA) (the licensees), dated May 24, 2001, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
 - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, as amended, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
 - C. There is reasonable assurance (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations;
 - D. The issuance of this license amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
 - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.

*STP Nuclear Operating Company is authorized to act for Houston Lighting & Power Company (HL&P), the City Public Service Board of San Antonio, Central Power and Light Company, and the City of Austin, Texas, and has exclusive responsibility and control over the physical construction, operation, and maintenance of the facility.

2. Accordingly, by Amendment No. 132 , the Facility Operating License No. NPF-76 is amended to authorize revision of the Technical Requirements Manual (TRM) requirements applicable to the refueling machine and auxiliary hoist used during movement of thimble plugs, drive rods or fuel assemblies within the reactor vessel, as set forth in the application for amendment by STP Nuclear Operating Company (STPNOC) dated May 24, 2001, and evaluated in the staff's safety evaluation enclosed with this amendment.
3. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment and Paragraph 2.C.(2) of Facility Operating License No. NPF-76 is hereby amended to read as follows:

(2) Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 132 , and the Environmental Protection Plan contained in Appendix B, are hereby incorporated in the license. STPNOC shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications and the Environmental Protection Plan.

4. The license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance and shall be implemented within 30 days from the date of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

/RA/

Robert A. Gramm, Chief, Section 1
Project Directorate IV
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment: Changes to the Technical
Specifications

Date of Issuance: September 13, 2001

STP NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY

DOCKET NO. 50-499

SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT, UNIT 2

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 121
License No. NPF-80

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
 - A. The application for amendment by STP Nuclear Operating Company* acting on behalf of itself and for Houston Lighting & Power Company (HL&P), the City Public Service Board of San Antonio (CPS), Central Power and Light Company (CPL), and the City of Austin, Texas (COA) (the licensees), dated May 24, 2001, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
 - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, as amended, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
 - C. There is reasonable assurance (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations;
 - D. The issuance of this license amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
 - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.

*STP Nuclear Operating Company is authorized to act for Houston Lighting & Power Company (HL&P), the City Public Service Board of San Antonio, Central Power and Light Company, and the City of Austin, Texas, and has exclusive responsibility and control over the physical construction, operation, and maintenance of the facility.

2. Accordingly, by Amendment No. 121 , the Facility Operating License No. NPF-80 is amended to authorize revision of the Technical Requirements Manual (TRM) requirements applicable to the refueling machine and auxiliary hoist used during movement of thimble plugs, drive rods or fuel assemblies within the reactor vessel, as set forth in the application for amendment by STP Nuclear Operating Company (STPNOC) dated May 24, 2001, and evaluated in the staff's safety evaluation enclosed with this amendment.
3. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment and Paragraph 2.C.(2) of Facility Operating License No. NPF-80 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - (2) Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 121 , and the Environmental Protection Plan contained in Appendix B, are hereby incorporated in the license. STPNOC shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications and the Environmental Protection Plan.
4. The license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance and shall be implemented within 30 days from the date of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

/RA/

Robert A. Gramm, Chief, Section 1
Project Directorate IV
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment: Changes to the Technical
Specifications

Date of Issuance: September 13, 2001

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NOS. 132 AND 121

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NOS. NPF-76 AND NPF-80

DOCKET NOS. 50-498 AND 50-499

Replace the following pages of the Appendix A Technical Specifications with the attached revised pages. The revised pages are identified by amendment number and contain marginal lines indicating the areas of change.

REMOVE

INSERT

INDEX

x
xv
xvi*

x
xv
xvi*

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

3/4 9-5*
3/4 9-6
B 3/4 9-1*
B 3/4 9-2

3/4 9-5*
3/4 9-6
B 3/4 9-1*
B 3/4 9-2

*Overleaf pages provided to maintain document completeness. No changes on these pages.

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

RELATED TO AMENDMENT NOS. 132 AND 121 TO

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NOS. NPF-76 AND NPF-80

STP NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY, ET AL.

SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT, UNITS 1 AND 2

DOCKET NOS. 50-498 AND 50-499

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By application dated May 24, 2001, STP Nuclear Operating Company (STPNOC or the licensee) proposed an amendment to the Technical Specifications (TSs) for South Texas Project, Units 1 and 2 (STP). The proposed amendment will relocate TS 3/4.9.6, "Refueling Machine" to the STP Technical Requirements Manual (TRM). The associated TS Bases pages and index page will be modified to address the proposed change.

2.0 BACKGROUND

Section 182a of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act) requires applicants for nuclear power plant operating licenses to include TSs as part of the license. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC or the Commission) regulatory requirements related to the content of TSs are set forth in 10 CFR 50.36. The regulation requires that the TSs include items in five specific categories, including (1) safety limits, limiting safety system settings and limiting control settings; (2) limiting conditions for operation (LCO); (3) surveillance requirements; (4) design features; and (5) administrative controls. The regulation does not specify the particular requirements to be included in the TSs.

The four criteria defined by 10 CFR 50.36(c)(2)(ii) for determining whether a particular matter is required to be included in the TS LCOs are as follows:

- (A) Criterion 1. Installed instrumentation that is used to detect, and indicate in the control room, a significant abnormal degradation of the reactor coolant pressure boundary.
- (B) Criterion 2. A process variable, design feature, or operating restriction that is an initial condition of a design basis accident or transient analysis that either assumes the failure of or presents a challenge to the integrity of a fission product barrier.
- (C) Criterion 3. A structure, system, or component that is part of the primary success path and which functions or actuates to mitigate a design basis accident

(DBA) or transient that either assumes the failure of or presents a challenge to the integrity of a fission product barrier.

- (D) Criterion 4. A structure, system, or component which operating experience or probabilistic risk assessment has shown to be significant to public health and safety.

Existing TS LCOs that fall within or satisfy any of the above criteria must be retained in the TSs; those that do not fall within or satisfy these criteria may be relocated to other licensee-controlled documents.

3.0 EVALUATION

TS 3/4.9.6 LCO defines the minimum capacity, overload cutoff limits, and load indicators for the refueling machine and auxiliary hoist necessary for this equipment to be considered operable during movement of thimble plugs, drive rods or fuel assemblies within the reactor vessel. The TS bases state that the operability requirements for the refueling machine and auxiliary hoist ensure that: (1) the refueling machine and auxiliary hoist will be used for movement of drive rods and fuel assemblies, (2) the refueling machine has sufficient load capacity to lift a drive rod or fuel assembly, and (3) the core internals and reactor vessel are protected from excessive lifting force in the event that they are inadvertently engaged during lifting operations.

The licensee indicated that the refueling machine was found to be a non-significant risk contributor to core damage frequency and offsite releases, as summarized in WCAP-11618, "Westinghouse Owners Group MERITS Program - Phase II Task 5." Further, the design of the refueling equipment will continue to meet Regulatory Guide 1.13, "Spent Fuel Storage Facility Design Basis" and meets the requirements of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix A, General Design Criteria (GDC) 2, "Design Bases for Protection Against Natural Phenomena;" GDC 5, "Sharing of Structures, Systems, and Components;" GDC 61, "Fuel Storage and Handling and Radioactivity Control;" and GDC 62, "Prevention of Criticality in Fuel Storage and Handling."

The relocation of the LCO requirements related to the refueling machine's operability is acceptable as it is not an LCO that satisfies the criteria of 10 CFR 50.36. Specifically, the TS is not related to an installed instrument used to detect a significant abnormal degradation of the reactor coolant pressure boundary; does not address a process variable, design feature, or operating restriction that is an initial condition of a DBA or transient analysis that either assumes the failure of, or presents a challenge to the integrity of a fission product barrier; is not related to a structure, system, or component (SSC) that is part of the primary success path and which functions or actuates to mitigate a DBA or transient that either assumes the failure of, or presents a challenge to the integrity of a fission product barrier; and is not related to a SSC which operating experience or probabilistic risk assessment has shown to be significant to public health and safety. On this basis, the staff finds relocation of the TS to STPNOC's TRM acceptable.

3.1 Index and Bases Pages

The changes to the Index and Bases pages are included for issuance with this amendment.

3.2 Correction of Typographical Errors

On Index page XV, the page number for Section 3/4.9.12 was corrected from B 3/4 9-4 to B 3/4 9-3.

On Bases page B 3/4 9-2, the heading for Section 3/4.9.4 "CONTAINMENT BUILDING PENETRATION" was changed to "CONTAINMENT BUILDING PENETRATIONS."

These changes were discussed with the licensee on August 23, 2001, and are acceptable.

4.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the Texas State official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendment. The State official had no comments.

5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendment permits changes to be made to certain operational limits and surveillance requirements. The NRC staff has determined that the amendment involves no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of any effluents that may be released offsite, and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration, and there has been no public comment on such finding (66 FR 36344, published July 11, 2001). Accordingly, the amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b) no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendment.

6.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributor: John A. Nakoski

Date: September 13, 2001

South Texas, Units 1 & 2
cc:

Mr. Cornelius F. O'Keefe
Senior Resident Inspector
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
P. O. Box 910
Bay City, TX 77414

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

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

Mr. C. A. Johnson/R. P. Powers
AEP - Central Power and Light Company
P. O. Box 289
Mail Code: N5022
Wadsworth, TX 77483

INPO
Records Center
700 Galleria Parkway
Atlanta, GA 30339-3064

Regional Administrator, Region IV
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 400
Arlington, TX 76011

D. G. Tees/R. L. Balcom
Houston Lighting & Power Co.
P. O. Box 1700
Houston, TX 77251

Judge, Matagorda County
Matagorda County Courthouse
1700 Seventh Street
Bay City, TX 77414

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

Mr. J. J. Sheppard, Vice President
Engineering & Technical Services
STP Nuclear Operating Company
P. O. Box 289
Wadsworth, TX 77483

S. M. Head, Manager, Licensing
Nuclear Quality & Licensing Department
STP Nuclear Operating Company
P. O. Box 289, Mail Code: N5014
Wadsworth, TX 77483

Office of the Governor
ATTN: John Howard, Director
Environmental and Natural
Resources Policy
P. O. Box 12428
Austin, TX 78711

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

Arthur C. Tate, Director
Division of Compliance & Inspection
Bureau of Radiation Control
Texas Department of Health
1100 West 49th Street
Austin, TX 78756

Jim Calloway
Public Utility Commission of Texas
Electric Industry Analysis
P. O. Box 13326
Austin, TX 78711-3326