

October 29, 2001

Mr. C. Lance Terry
Senior Vice President
& Principal Nuclear Officer
TXU Electric
Attn: Regulatory Affairs Department
P.O. Box 1002
Glen Rose, TX 76043

SUBJECT: COMANCHE PEAK STEAM ELECTRIC STATION (CPSES), UNITS 1 AND 2 -
RE: RESOLUTION OF THE HYDRAULIC EQUIVALENCY ISSUE
ASSOCIATED WITH LASER WELDED SLEEVING REPAIR OF STEAM
GENERATOR TUBES (TAC NOS. MB1052 AND MB1053)

Dear Mr. Terry:

By letter dated September 6, 2000, TXU Electric, the licensee for the CPSES, requested an amendment to its operating licenses to allow installation of laser-welded tube sleeves as an alternative to plugging defective steam generator tubes for CPSES, Unit 1, as supplemented by letter dated December 14, 2000. By supplemental letter dated January 25, 2001, the licensee modified its request to include a clearly conservative hydraulic equivalency of sleeved to plugged tubes. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued Amendment Nos. 83 and 83 for CPSES, Units 1 and 2, respectively, by letter dated February 20, 2001, approving the modified request with an understanding that the NRC staff would continue to review the hydraulic equivalency values proposed in the original request. The NRC staff has completed that review as documented in the enclosed Safety Evaluation (SE).

The NRC staff has determined the hydraulic equivalency values, as originally proposed, to be acceptable for the 30- and 36-inch sleeves because they have been supported by test data, and there is sufficient conservatism remaining to compensate for analysis assumptions that have not been fully justified. Hydraulic equivalency values for sleeves of less than 30 inches in length are acceptable with the stipulation that such sleeves shall be assumed to be at least 30 inches long. A "best estimate basis" has not been sufficiently supported and would require additional clarification and validation to be acceptable. Thus, the hydraulic equivalency values for the 36-inch hot leg, 30-inch hot leg, and 30-inch hot leg and cold leg are acceptable; these values are also acceptable for sleeves shorter than 30 inches.

The enclosed SE is being forwarded to TXU Electric, at this time, to request the licensee's assistance in the identification of any proprietary information, in the SE, which should be withheld from public disclosure per Title 10, *Code of Federal Regulations*, Part 2, Section 2.790. During an October 3, 2001, telephone conversation with Mr. D. Bushbaum of TXU Electric,

Mr. C. L. Terry

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Mr. Bushbaum indicated that the enclosed SE could be redacted, and returned to us, within two weeks of receipt of this letter. If it appears that the proposed schedule cannot be met, please contact Mr. David H. Jaffe at 301-415-1439, at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

/RA/

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

Docket Nos. 50-445 and 50-446

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/o encls: See next page

Mr. C. L. Terry

-2-

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Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station

cc:

Senior Resident Inspector
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
P. O. Box 2159
Glen Rose, TX 76403-2159

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

Mr. Roger D. Walker
Regulatory Affairs Manager
TXU Electric
P. O. Box 1002
Glen Rose, TX 76043

George L. Edgar, Esq.
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius
1800 M Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20036-5869

Honorable Dale McPherson
County Judge
P. O. Box 851
Glen Rose, TX 76043

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

Arthur C. Tate, Director
Division of Compliance & Inspection
Bureau of Radiation Control
Texas Department of Health
1100 West 49th Street
Austin, TX 78756-3189

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

April 2001