

PRIORITY ATTENTION REQUIRED MORNING REPORT - REGION IV AUGUST 16, 1993

Licensee/Facility:

Houston Lighting & Power Co.  
South Texas 1  
Wadsworth, Texas  
3  
Dockets: 50-498  
PWR/W-4-LP

Notification:

MR Number: 4-93-0045  
Date: 08/16/93  
Resident Inspector Phonecon 8/1

Subject: Event 25917 TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION 3.0.3 ENTRY AND COOLDOWN

Reportable Event Number: N/A

Discussion:

The unit entered Technical Specification 3.0.3 and commenced a cooldown from Mode 3 at about 4 p.m. CDT on September 13, 1993. Mode 3 had been entered on September 12 to allow testing of the turbine-driven auxiliary feedwater pump. On September 13, the licensee declared the four main feedwater isolation valve bypass valves inoperable after finding that the Valtek, air-operated, spring-to-close valves had insufficiently strong springs to hold the valves closed against steam generator pressure. This was determined after one of the valves drifted approximately 10 percent open during heatup. The valve was closed by applying air pressure to the top of the actuator diaphragm to apply additional closing force.

The springs in the actuators are believed to have been installed since original installation, but the air supply configuration to the solenoid valves and the positioner had been recently modified. The licensee made

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a report per 10 CFR 50.72 and planned a Notepad entry.

The unit was cooled down and entered Mode 5 at 5 a.m. on August 14. The licensee plans to defuel in preparation for steam generator eddy current testing. The portions of auxiliary feedwater pump testing which were completed were satisfactory, but the major tests were not completed prior to the required cooldown.

Regional Action:

The Region will review licensee action in conjunction with followup of other unresolved items related to the same valves.

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