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

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U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
One White Flint North
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852

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

Revised South Texas Project Technical Specification Bases pages are attached for your information and updating of the NRC copy of the Technical Specification Bases. These changes are enhancements to the following Technical Specification Bases pages:

- B 3/4 4-5, corrected a typographical error: changed "containment" to read "contaminant"
- B 3/4 6-4, clarified operability of a containment penetration with multiple branch lines.
- B 3/4 6-4, clarified relationship between one inoperable Reactor Containment Fan Cooler and restrictions on the diesel generator
- B 3/4 7-2, revised bases to indicate that the worst case for AFST capacity is now MFWLB with failure of the AFW flow controller
- B 3/4 8-4, clarified relationship between one inoperable Reactor Containment Fan Cooler and restrictions on the diesel generator
- B 3/4 8-14, removed information related to the 150-ton chillers
- B 3/4 9-3, clarified that 3000 gpm flow requirement refers to total RHR flow

If there are any questions, please contact me at (361) 972-7136.

Scott M. Head
Scott M. Head
Manager, Licensing

mkj

Attachment: Revised Technical Specification Bases Pages

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cc:

(paper copy)

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

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
One White Flint North
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852

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

Cornelius F. O'Keefe
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
P. O. Box 289, Mail Code: MN116
Wadsworth, TX 77483

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

(electronic copy)

A. H. Gutterman, Esquire
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP

M. T. Hardt/W. C. Gunst
City Public Service

Mohan C. Thadani
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

R. L. Balcom/D. G. Tees
Reliant Energy, Inc.

A. Ramirez
City of Austin

C. A. Johnson/A. C. Bakken III
AEP - Central Power and Light Company

Jon C. Wood
Matthews & Branscomb

ATTACHMENT

REVISED BASES PAGES

CHEMISTRY (Continued)

the chemistry within the Steady-State Limits provides adequate corrosion protection to ensure the structural integrity of the Reactor Coolant System over the life of the plant. The associated effects of exceeding the oxygen, chloride, and fluoride limits are time and temperature dependent. Corrosion studies show that operation may be continued with contaminant concentration levels in excess of the Steady-State Limits, up to the Transient Limits, for the specified limited time intervals without having a significant effect on the structural integrity of the Reactor Coolant System. The time interval permitting continued operation within the restrictions of the Transient Limits provides time for taking corrective actions to restore the contaminant concentrations to within the Steady-State Limits.

The Surveillance Requirements provide adequate assurance that concentrations in excess of the limits will be detected in sufficient time to take corrective action.

3/4.4.8 SPECIFIC ACTIVITY

The limitations on the specific activity of the reactor coolant ensure that the resulting 2-hour doses at the SITE BOUNDARY will not exceed an appropriately small fraction of 10 CFR Part 100 dose guideline values following a steam generator tube rupture accident in conjunction with an assumed steady-state reactor-to-secondary steam generator leakage rate of 150 gpd per steam generator. The values for the limits on specific activity represent limits based upon a parametric evaluation by the NRC of typical site locations. These values are conservative in that specific site parameters of the STPEGS site, such as SITE BOUNDARY location and meteorological conditions, were not considered in this evaluation.

The ACTION statement permitting POWER OPERATION to continue for limited time periods with the reactor coolant's specific activity greater than 1 microCurie/gram DOSE EQUIVALENT I-131, but within the allowable limit shown on Figure 3.4-1, accommodates possible iodine spiking phenomenon which may occur following changes in THERMAL POWER.

The sample analysis for determining the gross specific activity and E can exclude the radioiodines because of the low reactor coolant limit of 1 microCurie/gram DOSE EQUIVALENT I-131, and because, if the limit is exceeded, the radioiodine level is to be determined every 4 hours. If the gross specific activity level and radioiodine level in the reactor coolant were at their limits, the radioiodine contribution would be approximately 1%. In a release of reactor coolant with a typical mixture of radioactivity, the actual radioiodine contribution would probably be about 20%. The exclusion of radionuclides with half-lives less than 15 minutes from these determinations has

3/4.6.2.3 CONTAINMENT COOLING SYSTEM (continued)

STPEGS has three groups of Reactor Containment Fan Coolers (RCFCs) with two fans in each group (total of six fans). Five fans are adequate to satisfy the safety requirements including single failure. If only one RCFC, out of six available, is inoperable, then there are no restrictions applied on the diesel generators by the RCFC condition and Action statement 3.8.1.1(d) (1) can be met. The fan cooler units are designed to remove heat from the containment during both normal operation and accident conditions. In the event of an accident, all fan cooler units are automatically placed into operation on receipt of a safety injection signal. During normal operation, cooling water flow to the fan cooler units is supplied by the non-safety grade chilled water system. Following an accident, cooling water flow to the fan coolers is supplied by the safety grade component cooling water system. The chilled water system supplies water at a lower temperature than that of the component cooling water system and therefore requires a lower flow rate to achieve a similar heat removal rate.

3/4.6.3 CONTAINMENT ISOLATION VALVES

The OPERABILITY of the containment isolation valves ensures that the containment atmosphere will be isolated from the outside environment in the event of a release of radioactive material to the containment atmosphere or pressurization of the containment and is consistent with the requirements of General Design Criteria 54 through 57 of Appendix A to 10 CFR Part 50. Containment isolation within the time limits specified for those isolation valves designed to close automatically ensures that the release of radioactive material to the environment will be consistent with the assumptions used in the analyses for a LOCA.

In the event one containment isolation valve in one or more penetrations is inoperable, and the inoperable valve(s) cannot be restored to OPERABLE status within 24 hours, the affected penetration(s) must be isolated. The method of isolation must include the use of at least one isolation barrier that cannot be adversely affected by a single active failure. Isolation barriers that meet this criterion are a closed and deactivated automatic isolation valve, a closed manual valve, a blind flange, or a check valve with flow through the valve secured (a check valve may not be used to isolate an affected penetration flow path in which more than one isolation valve is inoperable or in which the isolation barrier is a closed system with a single isolation valve). For a penetration flow path isolated in accordance with Action b or c, the device used to isolate the penetration should be the closest available one to containment and does not have to be a General Design Criterion containment isolation valve.

In cases where multiple isolation valves use the same pipe going through the penetration and with one or more isolation valves inoperable, as long as the operable valve(s) is deactivated/manually isolated in its isolation position and the interconnecting isolation valves are operable, the appropriate Action statement is met. In these cases, the Action statement "Isolate each affected penetration..." means "Isolate each affected penetration flow path". (CR 97-908-1)

3/4.6.4 COMBUSTIBLE GAS CONTROL

The OPERABILITY of the equipment and systems required for the detection and control of hydrogen gas ensures that this equipment will be available to maintain the hydrogen concentration within containment below its flammable limit during post-LOCA conditions. Either recombiner unit is capable of controlling the expected hydrogen generation associated with: (1) zirconium-water reactions, (2) radiolytic decomposition of water, and (3) corrosion of metals within containment. These Hydrogen Control Systems are consistent with the recommendations of Regulatory Guide 1.7, "Control of Combustible Gas Concentrations in Containment Following a LOCA," Revision 2, November 1978.

3/4.7.1.2 AUXILIARY FEEDWATER SYSTEM

The OPERABILITY of the Auxiliary Feedwater System ensures that the Reactor Coolant System can be cooled down to less than 350°F from normal operating conditions in the event of a total loss-of-offsite power.

Each auxiliary feedwater pump is capable of delivering feedwater to the entrance of the steam generators with sufficient capacity to ensure that adequate feedwater flow is available to remove decay heat and reduce the Reactor Coolant System temperature to less than 350°F when the Residual Heat Removal System may be placed into operation. Verifying that each APW pump's developed head at the flow test point is greater than or equal to the required developed head ensures that AFW pump performance has not degraded during the cycle (Ref.: Calculations MC-5861 and ZC-7019). Flow and differential head are normal tests of centrifugal pump performance required by Section XI of the ASME Code. The AFW pumps are tested using the test line back to the AFST and the AFW isolation valves closed to prevent injection of cold water into the steam generators. This testing methodology confirms one point on the curve and is indicative of overall performance. Such inservice tests confirm component OPERABILITY, trend performance, and detect incipient failures by indicating abnormal performance. Performance of inservice testing, discussed in the ASME Code, Section XI, satisfies this requirement. The STPEGS isolation valves are active valves required to open on an AFW actuation signal. Specification 4.7.1.2.1 requires these valves to be verified in the correct position.

3/4.7.1.3 AUXILIARY FEEDWATER STORAGE TANK (AFST)

The OPERABILITY of the auxiliary feedwater storage tank with the minimum water volume ensures that sufficient water is available to maintain the RCS at HOT STANDBY conditions for 4 hours with steam discharge to the atmosphere concurrent with a MFWLB and failure of the AFW flow controller followed by a cooldown to 350°F at 25°F per hour. The contained water volume limit includes an allowance for water not usable because of tank discharge line location or other physical characteristics.

3/4.7.1.4 SPECIFIC ACTIVITY

The limitations on Secondary Coolant System specific activity ensure that the resultant offsite radiation dose will be limited to a small fraction of 10 CFR Part 100 dose guideline values in the event of a steam line rupture. This dose also includes the effects of a coincident 1 gpm primary-to-secondary tube leak in the steam generator of the affected steam line. These values are consistent with the assumptions used in the safety analyses.

3/4.7.1.5 MAIN STEAM LINE ISOLATION VALVES

The OPERABILITY of the main steam line isolation valves ensures that no more than one steam generator will blow down in the event of a steam line rupture. This restriction is required to: (1) minimize the positive reactivity effects of the Reactor Coolant System cooldown associated with the blowdown, and (2) limit the pressure rise within containment in the event the steam line rupture occurs within containment. The OPERABILITY of the main steam isolation valves within the closure times of the Surveillance Requirements are consistent with the assumptions used in the safety analyses.

A.C. SOURCES, D.C. SOURCES, and ONSITE POWER DISTRIBUTION (Continued)

required offsite circuit on a more frequent basis. However, if a second required circuits fails 4.8.1.1.1.a, the second offsite circuit is inoperable, and Action e, for two offsite circuits inoperable, is entered.

TS 3.8.1.1 Action b.

To ensure a highly reliable power source remains with one diesel generator inoperable, it is necessary to verify the OPERABILITY of the required offsite circuits on a more frequent basis. However, if a required circuit fails 4.8.1.1.1.a, the offsite circuit is inoperable, and Action c, for one offsite circuit and one diesel generator inoperable, is entered. Action b provides an allowance to avoid unnecessary testing of OPERABLE diesel generators. If it can be determined that the cause of the inoperable diesel generator does not exist on the OPERABLE diesel generators, and is an independently testable component or an inoperable support system, then surveillance requirement 4.8.1.1.2.a.2 does not have to be performed.

TS 3.8.1.1 Action c.

To ensure a highly reliable power source remains with one offsite circuit and one diesel generator inoperable, it is necessary to verify the OPERABILITY of the remaining required offsite circuit on a more frequent basis. However, if a second required circuit fails 4.8.1.1.1.a, the second offsite circuit is inoperable and LCO 3.0.3 should be entered. Action c provides an allowance to avoid unnecessary testing of OPERABLE diesel generators. If it can be determined that the cause of the inoperable diesel generator does not exist on the OPERABLE diesel generators, and is an independently testable component or an inoperable support system, then surveillance requirement 4.8.1.1.2.a.2 does not have to be performed.

TS 3.8.1.1 Action d.

Provides assurance that a loss of offsite power, during the period that a diesel generator is inoperable, does not result in a complete loss of safety function of critical systems. In this condition the remaining OPERABLE diesel generators and offsite circuits are adequate to supply electrical power to the onsite Class 1E Distribution System. Thus, on a component basis, single failure protection for the required feature's function may be lost; however, function has not been lost. Discovering one required diesel generator inoperable coincident with one or more inoperable required support or supported features, or both, that are associated with the operable diesel generator, results in starting the completion time for the required action. However, if only one Reactor Containment Fan Cooler, out of six available, is inoperable, then there are no restrictions applied on the diesel generators and Action statement 3.8.1.1(d) (1) can be met. Additionally, the completion time takes into account the capacity and capability of the remaining AC sources, and the low probability of a DBA occurring during the period.

A.C. SOURCES, D.C. SOURCES, and ONSITE POWER DISTRIBUTION (Continued)

The 10-year Frequency is consistent with the recommendations of Regulatory Guide 1.108, paragraph 2.b, and Regulatory Guide 1.137, paragraph C.2.f.

SR 4.8.1.1.2.g

This SR provided assurance that any accumulation of sediment over time or the normal wear on the system has not degraded the diesels.

The OPERABILITY of the minimum specified A.C. and D.C. power sources and associated distribution systems during shutdown and refueling ensures that: (1) the facility can be maintained in the shutdown or refueling condition for extended time periods, and (2) sufficient instrumentation and control capability is available for monitoring and maintaining the unit status.

The Surveillance Requirements for demonstrating the OPERABILITY of the diesel generators are in accordance with the recommendations of Regulatory Guides 1.9, "Selection of Diesel Generator Set Capacity for Standby Power Supplies," Revision 2, December 1979; 1.108, "Periodic Testing of Diesel Generator Units Used as Onsite Electric Power Systems at Nuclear Power Plants," Revision 1, August 1977; and ASTM D975-81, ASTM D1552-79, ASTM D262282, ASTM D4294-83, and ASTM D2276-78. The standby diesel generators auxiliary systems are designed to circulate warm oil and water through the diesel while the diesel is not running, to preclude cold ambient starts. For the purposes of surveillance testing, ambient conditions are considered to be the hot prelube condition.

3.8.1.3

The OPERABILITY of the minimum AC sources during MODE 6 with ≥23' of water in the cavity is based on the following conditions:

a. The unit can be maintained in the shutdown or refueling condition for extended periods;

b. Sufficient instrumentation and control capability is available for monitoring and maintaining the unit status; and

3/4.9.8 RESIDUAL HEAT REMOVAL AND COOLANT CIRCULATION

As many as three residual heat removal (RHR) loops may be in operation, but at least one loop must be in operation at all times. One loop in operation ensures that: (1) sufficient cooling capacity is available to remove decay heat and maintain the water in the reactor vessel below 140°F as required during the REFUELING MODE, and (2) sufficient coolant circulation is maintained through the core to minimize the effect of a boron dilution incident and prevent boron stratification.

The requirement to have two RHR loops OPERABLE when there is less than 23 feet of water above the reactor vessel flange ensures that a single failure of the operating RHR loop will not result in a complete loss of residual heat removal capability. With the reactor vessel head removed and at least 23 feet of water above the reactor pressure vessel flange, a large heat sink is available for core cooling. Thus, in the event of a failure of the operating RHR loop, adequate time is provided to initiate emergency procedures to cool the core.

ACTIONs applicable when no RHR loop is in operation require suspending the introduction into the RCS of coolant with boron concentration less than required to meet the refueling boron concentration limit necessary to assure continued safe operation. Introduction of coolant inventory must be from sources that have a boron concentration greater than what would be required in the RCS for minimum refueling boron concentration. This may result in an overall reduction in RCS boron concentration, but provides acceptable margin to maintaining subcritical operation. Introduction of temperature changes, including temperature increases when operating with a positive moderator temperature coefficient, must be evaluated to not result in operation below the required refueling boron concentration limit.

The 3000 gpm flow rate in 4.9.8.2 refers to total RHR flow through the core, i.e., cold leg injection flow. (CR 97-908-5)

3/4.9.9 CONTAINMENT VENTILATION ISOLATION SYSTEM

The OPERABILITY of this system ensures that the containment purge and exhaust penetrations will be automatically isolated upon detection of high radiation levels in the purge exhaust. The OPERABILITY of this system is required to restrict the release of radioactive material from the containment atmosphere to the environment.

3/4.9. 10 and 3/4.9.11 WATER LEVEL - REFUELING CAVITY AND STORAGE POOLS

The restrictions on minimum water level ensure that sufficient water depth is available to remove 99% of the assumed iodine gap activity released from the rupture of an irradiated fuel assembly. The minimum water depth is consistent with the assumptions of the safety analysis.