

August 26, 1991

Docket Nos. 50-498
and 50-499

Mr. Donald P. Hall
Group Vice-President, Nuclear
Houston Lighting & Power Company
P. O. Box 1700
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Dear Mr. Hall:

SUBJECT: ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT NOS. 26 AND 16 TO FACILITY OPERATING
LICENSE NOS. NPF-76 AND NPF-80 - SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT, UNITS 1
AND 2 (TAC NOS. 79842 AND 79843)

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment Nos. 26 and 16 to Facility
Operating License Nos. NPF-76 and NPF-80 for the South Texas Project, Units 1
and 2. The amendments consist of changes to the Technical Specifications (TS)
in response to your application dated February 26, 1991.

The amendments change the Appendix A Technical Specifications by revising TS
Surveillance 4.6.1.2 to allow the use of the mass point method as incorporated
in ANSI/ANS-56.8-1987, "Containment System Leakage Testing Requirements," to
calculate containment integrated leakage rates in accordance with Appendix J to
10 CFR Part 50 as amended on November 15, 1988.

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

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

George F. Dick, Jr., Project Manager
Project Directorate IV-2
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV/V
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosures:

1. Amendment No. 26 to NPF-76
2. Amendment No. 16 to NPF-80
3. Safety Evaluation

NRC FILE CENTER COPY

cc w/enclosures:
See next page

OFC	: PDIV-2/LA	: PDIV-2/PE	: PDIV-2/PM	: OGC	: PDIV-2/(A)D
NAME	: EPeyton	: TBergman	: GDick	: EHowell	: GDick
DATE	: 7/30/91	: 7/30/91	: 7/30/91	: 8/16/91	: 8/24/91

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Document Name: STP AMEND TAC 79842, 79843

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August 26, 1991

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

HOUSTON LIGHTING & POWER COMPANY
CITY PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD OF SAN ANTONIO
CENTRAL POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY
CITY OF AUSTIN, TEXAS
DOCKET NO. 50-498
SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT, UNIT 1
AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 26
License No. NPF-76

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
 - A. The application for amendment by Houston Lighting & Power Company* (HL&P) acting on behalf of itself and for the City Public Service Board of San Antonio (CPS), Central Power and Light Company (CPL), and City of Austin, Texas (COA) (the licensees) dated February 26, 1991, 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.

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

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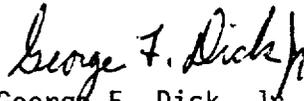
2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment and Paragraph 2.C.(2) of Facility Operating License No. NPF-76 is hereby amended to read as follows:

2. Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 26, and the Environmental Protection Plan contained in Appendix B, are hereby incorporated in the license. The licensee shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications and the Environmental Protection Plan.

3. The license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



George F. Dick, Jr., Acting Director
Project Directorate IV-2
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV/V
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment:
Changes to the Technical
Specifications

Date of Issuance: August 26, 1991



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

HOUSTON LIGHTING & POWER COMPANY

CITY PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD OF SAN ANTONIO

CENTRAL POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY

CITY OF AUSTIN, TEXAS

DOCKET NO. 50-499

SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT, UNIT 2

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 16
License No. NPF-80

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
 - A. The application for amendment by Houston Lighting & Power Company* (HL&P) acting on behalf of itself and for the City Public Service Board of San Antonio (CPS), Central Power and Light Company (CPL), and City of Austin, Texas (COA) (the licensees) dated February 26, 1991, 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.

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

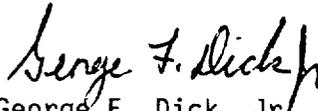
2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment and Paragraph 2.C.(2) of Facility Operating License No. NPF-80 is hereby amended to read as follows:

2. Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 16, and the Environmental Protection Plan contained in Appendix B, are hereby incorporated in the license. The licensee shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications and the Environmental Protection Plan.

3. The license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



George F. Dick, Jr., Acting Director
Project Directorate IV-2
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV/V
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment:
Changes to the Technical
Specifications

Date of Issuance: August 26, 1991

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NOS. 26 AND 16

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

DOCKET NOS. 50-498 AND 50-499

Replace the following page of the Appendix A Technical Specifications with the attached page. The revised page is identified by Amendment number and contains vertical lines indicating the areas of change. The corresponding overleaf page is also provided to maintain document completeness.

REMOVE

3/4 6-2

INSERT

3/4 6-2

3/4.6 CONTAINMENT SYSTEMS

3/4.6.1 PRIMARY CONTAINMENT

CONTAINMENT INTEGRITY

LIMITING CONDITION FOR OPERATION

3.6.1.1 Primary CONTAINMENT INTEGRITY shall be maintained.

APPLICABILITY: MODES 1, 2, 3, and 4.

ACTION:

Without primary CONTAINMENT INTEGRITY, restore CONTAINMENT INTEGRITY within 1 hour or be in at least HOT STANDBY within the next 6 hours and in COLD SHUTDOWN within the following 30 hours.

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS

4.6.1.1 Primary CONTAINMENT INTEGRITY shall be demonstrated:

- a. At least once per 31 days by verifying that all penetrations* not capable of being closed by OPERABLE containment automatic isolation valves and required to be closed during accident conditions are closed by valves, blind flanges, or deactivated automatic valves secured in their positions, except as provided in Specification 3.6.3;
- b. By verifying that each containment air lock is in compliance with the requirements of Specification 3.6.1.3; and
- c. After each closing of each penetration subject to Type B testing, except the containment air locks, if opened following a Type A or B test, by leak rate testing the seal with gas at a pressure not less than P_a , 37.5 psig, and verifying that when the measured leakage rate for these seals is added to the leakage rates determined pursuant to Specification 4.6.1.2d. for all other Type B and C penetrations, the combined leakage rate is less than $0.60 L_a$.

*Except valves, blind flanges, and deactivated automatic valves which are located inside the containment and are locked, sealed or otherwise secured in the closed position. These penetrations shall be verified closed during each COLD SHUTDOWN except that such verification need not be performed more often than once per 92 days.

CONTAINMENT SYSTEMS

CONTAINMENT LEAKAGE

LIMITING CONDITION FOR OPERATION

3.6.1.2 Containment leakage rates shall be limited to:

- a. An overall integrated leakage rate of less than or equal to L_a , 0.30% by weight of the containment air per 24 hours at P_a , 37.5 psig.
- b. A combined leakage rate of less than $0.60 L_a$ for all penetrations and valves subject to Type B and C tests, when pressurized to P_a .

APPLICABILITY: MODES 1, 2, 3, and 4.

ACTION:

With either the measured overall integrated containment leakage rate exceeding $0.75 L_a$ or the measured combined leakage rate for all penetrations and valves subject to Types B and C tests exceeding $0.60 L_a$, restore the overall integrated leakage rate to less than $0.75 L_a$ and the combined leakage rate for all penetrations subject to Type B and C tests to less than $0.60 L_a$ prior to increasing the Reactor Coolant System temperature above 200°F .

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS

4.6.1.2 The containment leakage rates shall be demonstrated at the following test schedule and shall be determined in conformance with the criteria, methods and provisions specified or endorsed in Appendix J of 10 CFR Part 50:

- a. Three Type A tests (Overall Integrated Containment Leakage Rate) shall be conducted at 40 ± 10 month intervals during shutdown at a pressure not less than P_a , 37.5 psig, during each 10-year service period. The third test of each set shall be conducted during the shutdown for the 10-year plant inservice inspection;

CONTAINMENT SYSTEMS

CONTAINMENT LEAKAGE

LIMITING CONDITION FOR OPERATION

3.6.1.2 Containment leakage rates shall be limited to:

- a. An overall integrated leakage rate of less than or equal to L_a , 0.30% by weight of the containment air per 24 hours at P_a , 37.5 psig.
- b. A combined leakage rate of less than $0.60 L_a$ for all penetrations and valves subject to Type B and C tests, when pressurized to P_a .

APPLICABILITY: MODES 1, 2, 3, and 4.

ACTION:

With either the measured overall integrated containment leakage rate exceeding $0.75 L_a$ or the measured combined leakage rate for all penetrations and valves subject to Types B and C tests exceeding $0.60 L_a$, restore the overall integrated leakage rate to less than $0.75 L_a$ and the combined leakage rate for all penetrations subject to Type B and C tests to less than $0.60 L_a$ prior to increasing the Reactor Coolant System temperature above 200°F.

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS

4.6.1.2 The containment leakage rates shall be demonstrated at the following test schedule and shall be determined in conformance with the criteria, methods and provisions specified or endorsed in Appendix J of 10 CFR Part 50:

- a. Three Type A tests (Overall Integrated Containment Leakage Rate) shall be conducted at 40 ± 10 month intervals during shutdown at a pressure not less than P_a , 37.5 psig, during each 10-year service period. The third test of each set shall be conducted during the shutdown for the 10-year plant inservice inspection;



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

RELATED TO AMENDMENT NOS. 26 AND 16 TO

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

HOUSTON LIGHTING & POWER COMPANY

CITY PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD OF SAN ANTONIO

CENTRAL POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY

CITY OF AUSTIN, TEXAS

DOCKET NOS. 50-498 AND 50-499

SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT, UNITS 1 AND 2

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By application dated February 26, 1991, Houston Lighting & Power Company, et. al., (the licensee) requested changes to the Technical Specifications (TS) (Appendix A to Facility Operating License Nos. NPF-76 and NPF-80) for the South Texas Project, Units 1 and 2 (STP). The proposed changes would revise the TS Surveillance 4.6.1.2 to allow the use of the mass point method as incorporated in ANSI/ANS-56.8-1987, "Containment System Leakage Testing Requirements," to calculate containment integrated leakage rates in accordance with Appendix J to 10 CFR Part 50 as amended November 15, 1988.

2.0 BACKGROUND

In 1973, when the Commission initially promulgated its requirements concerning containment integrated leakage rate testing (10 CFR 50, Appendix J), the Commission required licensees to use state-of-the-art leakage test methodology and specifically called for Type A test methods described in ANSI N45.4-1972, "Leakage Rate Testing of Containment Structure for Nuclear Reactors" (Appendix J, Section III.A.3). This standard accepted two techniques for evaluating test results: the total time data analysis technique and the point-to-point data analysis technique. The STP Technical Specifications were written to include the methods and provisions of ANSI N45.4-1972 and state that the provisions of ANSI N45.4-1972 are to be used to satisfy the Containment Leakage Surveillance (4.6.1.2).

Subsequent advances in leakage rate testing technology have provided improved test methods, including the mass point method. The mass point method was incorporated in a newer standard, ANSI/ANS-56.8-1987, "Containment System Leakage Testing Requirements." On November 15, 1988, the NRC amended

Appendix J (53 FR 45890) to explicitly permit use of the mass point method. The NRC staff had accepted the mass point method as an improved alternative method of calculating containment leakage rates.

Although Appendix J was revised, the requirements of STP TS Surveillance 4.6.1.2 continue to endorse the methods and provisions of ANSI N45.4-1972. Consequently, the licensee proposed to amend the licenses by modifying the TSs.

3.0 EVALUATION

The staff has evaluated the licensee's justification for the requested TS change and found it to be in compliance with the requirements of Appendix J to 10 CFR Part 50. Based on the review of the licensee's submittal, the staff concludes that this Technical Specification change will not impact the safe operation of the plant and is therefore 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 changes 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 (56 FR 15643). 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: J. Pulsipher

Date: August 26, 1991