January 8, 1997

Mr. William T. Cottle
Group Vice-President, Nuclear
Houston Lighting & Power Company
South Texas Project Electric
Generating Station
P. O. Box 289
Wadsworth, TX 77483

SUBJECT: SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT, UNITS 1 AND 2 - AMENDMENT NOS. 86 AND 73 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NOS. NPF-76 AND NPF-80 (TAC NOS. M96921 AND 96922)

Dear Mr. Cottle:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment Nos. 86 and 73 to Facility Operating License Nos. NPF-76 and NPF-80 for the South Texas Project, Units 1 and 2 (STP). The amendments consist of changes to the Technical Specifications (TSs) in response to your application dated October 23, 1996, as supplemented by letter dated November 6, 1996.

The amendments revise Technical Specification 3.4.6.1, regarding reactor coolant system leakage detection instrumentation, to adopt the requirements found in NUREG-1431, "Standard Technical Specifications Westinghouse Plants," for the reactor coolant system leakage detection instrumentation.

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

Sincerely,
ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:
Thomas W. Alexion, Project Manager
Project Directorate IV-1
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-498 and 50-499

Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 86 to NPF-76
2. Amendment No. 73 to NPF-80
3. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

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COPY	YES/NO	YES/NO	YES/NO	YES/NO

Tw/t signed on 1/8/97

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 8, 1997

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Executive Vice-President &
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Houston Lighting & Power Company
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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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. 86
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 October 23, 1996, as supplemented by letter dated November 6, 1996, 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-80 is hereby amended to read as follows:

   2. Technical Specifications

      The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 73 , 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

Thomas W. Alexion

Thomas W. Alexion, Project Manager
Project Directorate IV-1
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment: Changes to the Technical Specifications

Date of Issuance: January 8, 1997

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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. 73
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 October 23, 1996, as supplemented by letter dated November 6, 1996, 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-76 is hereby amended to read as follows:

   2. Technical Specifications

      The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 86, 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

Thomas W. Alexion

Thomas W. Alexion, Project Manager
Project Directorate IV-1
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment: Changes to the Technical Specifications

Date of Issuance: January 8, 1997

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NOS. 86 AND 73

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 contain marginal lines indicating the areas of change. The corresponding overleaf page is also provided to maintain document completeness.

REMOVE	INSERT
3/4 4-19	3/4 4-19

3/4.4.6 REACTOR COOLANT SYSTEM LEAKAGE

LEAKAGE DETECTION SYSTEMS

LIMITING CONDITION FOR OPERATION

3.4.6.1 The following Reactor Coolant System Leakage Detection Instrumentation shall be OPERABLE:

a. One Containment Atmosphere Radioactivity Monitor (gaseous or particulate), and

b. The Containment Normal Sump Level and Flow Monitoring System.

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

ACTION:

a. With the required containment atmosphere radioactivity monitor inoperable perform the following actions or be in at least HOT STANDBY within the next 6 hours and in COLD SHUTDOWN within the following 30 hours:

   1) Restore one containment atmosphere monitoring system to OPERABLE status within 30 days and,

   2) Obtain and analyze a grab sample of the containment atmosphere for gaseous and particulate radioactivity at least once per 24 hours, or

   3) Perform a Reactor Coolant System water inventory balance at least once per 24 hours.

b. With the required containment normal sump level and flow monitoring system inoperable perform the following actions or be in at least HOT STANDBY within the next 6 hours and in COLD SHUTDOWN within the following 30 hours:

   1) Restore the containment normal sump and flow monitoring system to OPERABLE status within 30 days and,

   2) Perform a Reactor Coolant System water inventory balance at least once per 24 hours.

c. With both a. and b. inoperable, enter 3.0.3.

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS

4.4.6.1 The Leakage Detection Systems shall be demonstrated OPERABLE by:

a. Containment Atmosphere Gaseous and Particulate Monitoring Systems performance of CHANNEL CHECK, CHANNEL CALIBRATION, AND DIGITAL CHANNEL OPERATIONAL TEST at the frequencies specified in Table 4.3-3, and

b. Containment Normal Sump Level and Flow Monitoring System performance of CHANNEL CALIBRATION at least once per 18 months.

OPERATIONAL LEAKAGE

LIMITING CONDITION FOR OPERATION

3.4.6.2 Reactor Coolant System leakage shall be limited to:

a. No PRESSURE BOUNDARY LEAKAGE,

b. 1 gpm UNIDENTIFIED LEAKAGE,

c. 1 gpm total reactor-to-secondary leakage through all steam generators and 500 gallons per day through any one steam generator,

d. 10 gpm IDENTIFIED LEAKAGE from the Reactor Coolant System, and

e. 0.5 gpm leakage per nominal inch of valve size up to a maximum of 5 gpm at a Reactor Coolant System pressure of 2235 ± 20 psig from any Reactor Coolant System Pressure Isolation Valve specified in Table 3.4-1.*

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

ACTION:

a. With any PRESSURE BOUNDARY LEAKAGE, be in at least HOT STANDBY within 6 hours and in COLD SHUTDOWN within the following 30 hours.

b. With any Reactor Coolant System leakage greater than any one of the above limits, excluding PRESSURE BOUNDARY LEAKAGE and leakage from Reactor Coolant System Pressure Isolation Valves, reduce the leakage rate to within limits within 4 hours or be in at least HOT STANDBY within the next 6 hours and in COLD SHUTDOWN within the following 30 hours.

c. With any Reactor Coolant System Pressure Isolation Valve leakage greater than the above limit, isolate the high pressure portion of the affected system from the low pressure portion within 4 hours by use of at least two closed manual or deactivated automatic valves, or be in at least HOT STANDBY within the next 6 hours and in COLD SHUTDOWN within the following 30 hours.

*Test pressures less than 2235 psig but greater than 150 psig are allowed. Observed leakage shall be adjusted for the actual test pressure up to 2235 psig assuming the leakage to be directly proportional to pressure differential to the one-half power.

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

RELATED TO AMENDMENT NOS. 86 AND 73 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 October 23, 1996, as supplemented by letter dated November 6, 1996, Houston Lighting & Power Company, et al., (the licensee) requested changes to the Technical Specifications (TSs) (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 TS 3.4.6.1, regarding reactor coolant system (RCS) leakage detection instrumentation, to adopt the requirements found in NUREG-1431, "Standard Technical Specifications Westinghouse Plants," for the RCS leakage detection instrumentation.

2.0 DISCUSSION

The leakage detection systems at STP consist of two atmospheric radioactivity monitors, one gaseous and one particulate, and a containment normal sump level and flow monitoring system. The proposed change (1) reduces the number of containment atmospheric radioactivity channels which must be operable from two to one, (2) increases the allowed outage time (AOT) with both containment atmospheric radiation monitors inoperable from 72 hours to 30 days, and (3) increases the AOT for an inoperable containment normal sump level and flow monitoring system, from 6 hours to 30 days.

The licensee is requesting the above changes to allow calibration of the containment normal sump level transmitter during power operations. Due to a misunderstanding about the system configuration, the containment normal sump level transmitter loop was not calibrated during the previous outage. As a result, the calibration will exceed its frequency on February 1, 1996. While the calibration can physically be done during power operations, the actual time to perform the calibration will take about 7 hours to complete. During this time, the containment normal sump level and flow monitoring system will

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be inoperable, forcing a unit shutdown. This license amendment will permit the calibration to be completed without forcing a unit shutdown.

3.0 EVALUATION

3.1 Reducing the number of operable containment atmospheric radioactivity channels from two to one.

With this proposed change, the plant will continue to have diverse and independent means of detecting significant changes in the amount of leakage from the RCS, including the containment normal sump level and flow monitoring system and at least one of the two containment atmospheric radiation monitors. Based on the above, the staff finds this change acceptable.

3.2 Increasing the AOT with both containment atmospheric radiation monitors inoperable from 72 hours to 30 days.

This proposed change is based upon the continued availability of an operable containment normal sump level and flow monitoring system and the compensatory requirements in the action statements. The proposed action required as a result of this change is an analysis of a containment atmospheric grab sample at least once per 24 hours or performance of a RCS water inventory balance at least once per 24 hours (the proposed RCS water inventory balance of at least once per 24 hours is an increase in the frequency required by TS 4.4.6.2.1.c, which is once per 72 hours). The current TSs action is an analysis of a containment atmospheric grab sample at least once per 24 hours and performance of a RCS water inventory balance at least once per 8 hours.

The staff finds that either the grab sample or the water inventory balance is sufficient alternative action since either action will identify changes in RCS leakage. The staff finds that the 24-hour interval is appropriate since this interval provides periodic information that is adequate to detect RCS leakage. The staff finds the 30-day AOT appropriate since it recognizes that at least one other form of continuous leakage detection monitoring is available (the containment normal sump level and flow monitoring system). Based on the above, the staff finds these changes acceptable.

3.3 Increasing the AOT for an inoperable containment normal sump level and flow monitoring system from 6 hours to 30 days.

This proposed change is based upon the continued availability of an operable containment atmospheric radiation monitor and the compensatory requirements in the action statements. The proposed action required as a result of this change is performance of a RCS water inventory balance at least once per 24 hours. The current TSs action offers no alternative action except to go to hot standby within 6 hours and to cold shutdown with the following 30 hours.

The staff finds that the water inventory balance is sufficient alternative action since this will identify changes in RCS leakage. The staff finds that the 24-hour interval is appropriate since this interval provides periodic

information that is adequate to detect RCS leakage. The staff finds the 30-day AOT appropriate since it recognizes that at least one other form of continous leakage detection monitoring is available (an operable containment atmospheric radiation monitor). Based on the above, the staff finds these changes acceptable.

4.0 SUMMARY

Based on the above evaluation, the staff finds that the proposed changes to TS 3.4.6.1, regarding RCS leakage detection instrumentation, are acceptable. The staff also notes that the proposed changes are consistent with the requirements found in NUREG-1431, "Standard Technical Specifications Westinghouse Plants," for the RCS leakage detection instrumentation.

5.0 STATE CONSULTATION

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

6.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendments change a requirement with respect to installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. The NRC staff has determined that the amendments involve 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 amendments involve no significant hazards consideration, and there has been no public comment on such finding (61 FR 64387). 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 amendments.

7.0 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 amendments will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributor: T. Alexion

Date: January 8, 1997