



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

June 15, 1998

50-498/499

Mr. William T. Cottle
President and Chief Executive Officer
STP Nuclear Operating Company
South Texas Project Electric
Generating Station
P. O. Box 289
Wadsworth, TX 77483

SUBJECT: CONSENT TO CONFIRMATORY ORDER MODIFYING LICENSE, SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT, UNITS 1 AND 2 (TAC NOS. MA1585 AND MA1586)

Dear Mr. Cottle:

By letters dated December 20, 1995, August 26 and November 6, 1996, July 7, 1997, and April 15 and June 4, 1998, you informed us of your schedule commitment for implementing Thermo-Lag 330-1 fire barrier corrective actions at South Texas Project, Units 1 and 2 (STP) by the end of 1998. Due to NRC staff concerns that Thermo-Lag corrective actions have not been completed at STP to date and to preclude any schedule slippage, we plan to modify the STP licenses of both STP Units by Order to make this commitment a requirement. If STP Nuclear Operating Company consents, we plan to incorporate the commitment into a Confirmatory Order Modifying License (Order) as follows:

STP Nuclear Operating Company shall complete final implementation of Thermo-Lag 330-1 fire barrier corrective actions at South Texas Project, Units 1 and 2, described in the STP Nuclear Operating Company submittals to the NRC dated December 20, 1995, August 26, 1996, November 6, 1996, July 7, 1997, April 15, 1998, and June 4, 1998, by the end of 1998, excluding those corrective actions which are the subject of the pending deviation request from Appendix R, Section III.G.2.c, dated September 14, 1995, as supplemented by letters dated November 6, 1996, May 22, 1997, August 4, 1997, and April 15, 1998, for NRC staff review and approval pursuant to License Condition 2.E of a change to the approved fire protection program. A schedule for completion of any corrective actions associated with this request will be determined separately.

By consenting to issuance of the Order confirming the above commitment, the STP Nuclear Operating Company is waiving its right to request a hearing on all or any part of the Order. T. H. Cloninger must sign, as noted on the enclosure to this letter, that he agrees to such a commitment on behalf of the STP Nuclear Operating Company and return the enclosure within 10 business days from the date of this letter to Mr. Samuel J. Collins, Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852-2738. After receiving written consent, the NRC will issue the aforementioned Order.

Questions concerning this letter should be addressed to the NRC Project Manager, Thomas W. Alexion at 301-415-1326.

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PDR ADOCK 05000498
P PDR

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CP-1

Mr. William T. Cottle

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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Elinor G. Adensam, Acting Director
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-498 and 50-499

Enclosure: Commitment

cc w/encl: See next page

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Docket File	PUBLIC	PD4-1 r/f
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Document Name: STTHERMO.LTR

OFC	PM/PD4-1	LA/PD4-1	C/SPLB	PD/PD4-1	OGC
NAME	TAlexion	CHawes	TMarsh	JHannon	OGC
DATE	05/20/98	05/20/98	06/08/98	06/09/98	06/09/98
COPY	YES/NO	YES/NO	YES/NO	YES/NO	YES/NO

OFC	(A)B/DRPW 6/15
NAME	EAdensam
DATE	06/15/98
COPY	YES/NO


OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

William T. Cottle

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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Elinor G. Adensam". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "E".

Elinor G. Adensam, Acting Director
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-498 and 50-499

Enclosure: Commitment

cc w/encl: See next page

Mr. William T. Cottle
STP Nuclear Operating Company

South Texas, Units 1 & 2

cc:

Mr. David P. Loveless
Senior Resident Inspector
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
P. O. Box 910
Bay City, TX 77414

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

Mr. M. T. Hardt
Mr. W. C. Gunst
City Public Service Board
P. O. Box 1771
San Antonio, TX 78296

Mr. G. E. Vaughn/C. A. Johnson
Central Power and Light Company
P. O. Box 289
Mail Code: N5012
Wadsworth, TX 74483

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

D. G. Tees/R. L. Balcom
Houston Lighting & Power Co.
P. O. Box 1700
Houston, TX 77251

Judge, Matagorda County
Matagorda County Courthouse
1700 Seventh Street
Bay City, TX 77414

Jack R. Newman, Esq.
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius
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Washington, DC 20036-5869

Mr. Lawrence E. Martin
Vice President, Nuc. Assurance & Licensing
STP Nuclear Operating Company
P. O. Box 289
Wadsworth, TX 77483

Office of the Governor
ATTN: John Howard, Director
Environmental and Natural
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P. O. Box 12428
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Texas Department of Health
1100 West 49th Street
Austin, TX 78756

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

I, T. H. Cloninger, Vice President, Nuclear Engineering, STP Nuclear Operating Company, hereby agree on behalf of STP Nuclear Operating Company that STP Nuclear Operating Company will comply with the following commitment:

STP Nuclear Operating Company shall complete final implementation of Thermo-Lag 330-1 fire barrier corrective actions at South Texas Project, Units 1 and 2, described in the STP Nuclear Operating Company submittals to the NRC dated December 20, 1995, August 26, 1996, November 6, 1996, July 7, 1997, April 15, 1998, and June 4, 1998, by the end of 1998, excluding those corrective actions which are the subject of the pending deviation request from Appendix R, Section III.G.2.c, dated September 14, 1995, as supplemented by letters dated November 6, 1996, May 22, 1997, August 4, 1997, and April 15, 1998, for NRC staff review and approval pursuant to License Condition 2.E of a change to the approved fire protection program. A schedule for completion of any corrective actions associated with this request will be determined separately.

STP Nuclear Operating Company also agrees to incorporating this commitment into a Confirmatory Order Modifying License (Order) for each STP Unit that will be effective immediately upon issuance. I recognize that by signing below, STP Nuclear Operating Company consents to the issuance of an immediately effective Order incorporating the above commitment and, by doing so, pursuant to 10 CFR 2.202(a)(3), STP Nuclear Operating Company will not have a right to request a hearing on all or any part of this Order.

T. H. Cloninger
Vice President, Nuclear Engineering
STP Nuclear Operating Company

Date

ENCLOSURE