

September 23, 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. 91
AND 78 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NOS. NPF-76 AND NPF-80
(TAC NOS. M96115 AND M96116)

Dear Mr. Cottle:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment Nos. 91 and 78 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 July 8, 1996.

The amendments allow that the component cooling water system surge tank level instrumentation can be demonstrated operable, by performing a channel calibration test, during any plant mode of operation.

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,
Orig. 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. 91 to NPF-76
2. Amendment No. 78 to NPF-80
3. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

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

September 23, 1997

Mr. William T. Cottle
Executive Vice-President &
General Manager, Nuclear
Houston Lighting & Power Company
South Texas Project Electric
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas W. Alexion".

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. 91 to NPF-76
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3. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

Mr. William T. Cottle
Houston Lighting & Power Company

South Texas, Units 1 & 2

cc:

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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. 91
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 July 8, 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. 91, 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, to be implemented within 30 days of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



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: September 23, 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. 78
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 July 8, 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-80 is hereby amended to read as follows:

2. Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 78, 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, to be implemented within 30 days of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



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: September 23, 1997

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NOS. 91 AND 78
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 marginal lines indicating the areas of change. The corresponding overleaf page is also provided to maintain document completeness.

REMOVE

3/4 7-12

INSERT

3/4 7-12

PLANT SYSTEMS

3/4.7.2 STEAM GENERATOR PRESSURE/TEMPERATURE LIMITATION

LIMITING CONDITION FOR OPERATION

3.7.2 The temperatures of both the reactor and secondary coolants in the steam generators shall be greater than 70°F when the pressure of either coolant in the steam generator is greater than 200 psig.

APPLICABILITY: At all times.

ACTION:

With the requirements of the above specification not satisfied:

- a. Reduce the steam generator pressure of the applicable side to less than or equal to 200 psig within 30 minutes, and
- b. Perform an engineering evaluation to determine the effect of the overpressurization on the structural integrity of the steam generator. Determine that the steam generator remains acceptable for continued operation prior to increasing its temperatures above 200°F.

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS

4.7.2 The pressure in each side of the steam generator shall be determined to be less than 200 psig at least once per hour when the temperature of either the reactor or secondary coolant is less than 70°F.

PLANT SYSTEMS

3/4.7.3 COMPONENT COOLING WATER SYSTEM

LIMITING CONDITION FOR OPERATION

3.7.3 At least three independent component cooling water loops shall be OPERABLE.

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

ACTION:

With only two component cooling water loops OPERABLE, restore at least three loops to OPERABLE status within 7 days or be in at least HOT STANDBY within the next 6 hours and in COLD SHUTDOWN within the following 30 hours.

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS

4.7.3 At least three component cooling water loops shall be demonstrated OPERABLE:

- a. At least once per 31 days by verifying that each valve outside containment (manual, power-operated, or automatic) servicing safety-related equipment that is not locked, sealed, or otherwise secured in position is in its correct position; and
- b. At least once per 18 months by verifying that:
 - 1) Each automatic valve servicing safety-related equipment or isolating the non-nuclear safety portion of the system actuates to its correct position on a Safety Injection, Loss of Offsite Power, Containment Phase "B" Isolation, or Low Surge Tank test signal, as applicable (performed during shutdown);
 - 2) Each Component Cooling Water System pump starts automatically on a Safety Injection or Loss of Offsite Power test signal (performed during shutdown); and
 - 3) The surge tank level instrumentation which provides automatic isolation of portions of the system is demonstrated OPERABLE by performance of a CHANNEL CALIBRATION test.
- c. By verifying that each valve inside containment (manual, power-operated, or automatic) servicing safety-related equipment that is not locked, sealed, or otherwise secured in position is in its correct position prior to entering MODE 4 following each COLD SHUTDOWN of greater than 72 hours if not performed within the previous 31 days.



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

RELATED TO AMENDMENT NOS. 91 AND 78 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 July 8, 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 allow that the component cooling water (CCW) system surge tank level instrumentation can be demonstrated operable, by performing a channel calibration test, during any plant mode of operation.

2.0 EVALUATION

The design for STP provides three independent component CCW loops for each unit. In each unit, one CCW loop can provide required cooling in any mode of operation including accident conditions.

The existing TS 4.7.3 specifies surveillances to be performed periodically to demonstrate that all three CCW loops are operable. TS 4.7.3.b currently specifies three CCW instrumentation surveillances which must be performed at least once per 18 months, during shutdown. The proposed change does not affect the first two of these surveillances, i.e., TS 4.7.3.b.1 and TS 4.7.3.b.2. These continue to be required at least once per 18 months, during shutdown.

The third of these 18-month surveillances, TS 4.7.3.b.3, currently requires that the CCW surge tank level be demonstrated operable by performance of a channel calibration test on each of the three CCW loops at least once per 18 months, also during shutdown. The licensee states that the channel calibrations required in TS 4.7.3.b.3 can be safely performed during any plant operating mode since three-train redundancy ensures that sufficient cooling

capacity is available for continued operation of safety-related equipment during normal and accident conditions. Therefore, the licensee proposes to change TS 4.7.3.b.3 to delete the existing restriction that requires the CCW surge tank level instrumentation channel calibration to be performed during shutdown, while continuing to require the same maximum interval, i.e., 18 months.

The channel calibration will be performed only on the level instrumentation of a CCW train that is out of service for scheduled maintenance. Redundancy will be provided by instrumentation associated with the two trains that are in service during the channel calibration. Surveillances will continue to be performed at the intervals (18 months) specified in the existing TS. The surveillances do not differ from those previously performed to comply with the TS. The licensee states that the proposed change to TS 4.7.3.b.3 will not affect any accident initiators or precursors and will not alter the design assumptions for the systems or components used to mitigate the consequences of an accident.

3.0 SUMMARY

The staff has reviewed the licensee's submittal and finds that the proposed CCW surge tank level instrumentation TS change will not alter the TS surveillances to be performed nor cause the surveillance to be performed under conditions which will have a significant impact upon the margin of safety because of the redundancy in the CCW system. The staff, therefore, finds that the proposed TS change is acceptable.

4.0 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.

5.0 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 and change surveillance requirements. 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 44358). 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.

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

Principal Contributor: K. Mortensen

Date: September 23, 1997