

June 16, 1999

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: SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT, UNITS 1 AND 2 - ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENTS
RE: RELOCATION OF METEOROLOGICAL INSTRUMENTATION TECHNICAL
SPECIFICATIONS (TAC NOS. MA5168 AND MA5169)

Dear Mr. Cottle:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 111 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-76 and Amendment No. 98 to Facility Operating License No. 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 March 30, 1999.

The amendments deleted TS 3/4.3.3.4, "Meteorological Instrumentation," and its associated Bases. These requirements did not have to be relocated from the TSs to a licensee-controlled document based on your indication that the requirements being deleted have already been incorporated into the Technical Requirements Manual (TRM). Because the TRM is incorporated within the STP updated final safety analysis report (UFSAR), changes to the meteorological instrumentation requirements therein can be changed only in accordance with 10 CFR 50.59. Therefore, the TRM is an acceptable document for the requirements.

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

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Thomas W. Alexion, Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate IV & Decommissioning
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-498 and 50-499

Enclosures:

1. Amendment No. 111 to NPF-76
2. Amendment No. 98 to NPF-80
3. Safety Evaluation

DISTRIBUTION

Docket File	OGC
PUBLIC	ACRS
PDIV-1 RF	R.Scholl (e-mail SE)
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K.Brockman, RIV	J.Hurley, RIV
J.Kilcrease, RIV	W.Beckner

cc w/encls: See next page

Document Name: G:\PDIV-1\SouthTexas\AMDA5168.WPD *See previous concurrence

OFC	*PDIV-1/PM	PDIV-1/PM	PDIV-1/LA	*TSB/BC	*OGC	PDIV-1/SC
NAME	JDonohew	TAlexion	CJamerson	WBeckner	SETurk	RGriffin
DATE	05/12/99	06/15/99	06/15/99	05/24/99	06/04/99	06/16/99
COPY	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

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South Texas, Units 1 & 2

cc:

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

STP NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY

DOCKET NO. 50-498

SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT, UNIT 1

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 111
License No. NPF-76

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
 - A. The application for amendment by STP Nuclear Operating Company* acting on behalf of itself and for Houston Lighting & Power Company (HL&P), the City Public Service Board of San Antonio (CPS), Central Power and Light Company (CPL), and City of Austin, Texas (COA) (the licensees), dated March 30, 1999, 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.

*STP Nuclear Operating Company is authorized to act for Houston Lighting & Power Company (HL&P), 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, 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. 111, 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 and shall be implemented within 30 days.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Robert A. Gramm, Chief, Section 1
Project Directorate IV & Decommissioning
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment: Changes to the Technical
Specifications

Date of Issuance: June 16, 1999



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

STP NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY

DOCKET NO. 50-499

SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT, UNIT 2

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 98
License No. NPF-80

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
 - A. The application for amendment by STP Nuclear Operating Company* acting on behalf of itself and for Houston Lighting & Power Company (HL&P), the City Public Service Board of San Antonio (CPS), Central Power and Light Company (CPL), and City of Austin, Texas (COA) (the licensees), dated March 30, 1999, 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.

*STP Nuclear Operating Company is authorized to act for Houston Lighting & Power Company (HL&P), 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, 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. 98 , 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 and shall be implemented within 30 days.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Robert A. Gramm, Chief, Section 1
Project Directorate IV & Decommissioning
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment: Changes to the Technical
Specifications

Date of Issuance: June 16, 1999

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NOS. 111 AND 98

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

DOCKET NOS. 50-498 AND 50-499

Replace the following pages of the Appendix A Technical Specifications with the attached revised pages. The revised pages are identified by amendment number and contain marginal lines indicating the areas of change.

Remove

v
vi
3/4 3-57
3/4 3-58
3/4 3-59
3/4 3-60
B 3/4 3-3
B 3/4 3-4

Insert

v*
vi
3/4 3-57*
3/4 3-58
3/4 3-59
3/4 3-60*
B 3/4 3-3
B 3/4 3-4

* Overleaf pages provided to maintain document completeness. No changes on these pages.

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SOUTH TEXAS - UNITS 1 & 2

3/4 3-57

Unit 1 - Amendment No. 4, 99
Unit 2 - Amendment No. 86

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INSTRUMENTATION

3.3.3.4 (Not Used)

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INSTRUMENTATION

BASES

REACTOR TRIP SYSTEM and ENGINEERED SAFETY FEATURES ACTUATION SYSTEM INSTRUMENTATION (Continued)

Radiation Monitoring Bases are discussed in Section 3/4.3.3.1 below.

The Engineered Safety Features Actuation System interlocks perform the following functions:

- P-4 Reactor tripped - Actuates Turbine trip via P-16, closes main feedwater valves on T_{avg} below Setpoint, prevents the opening of the main feedwater valves which were closed by a Safety Injection or High Steam Generator Water Level and allows Safety Injection block so that components can be reset or tripped.
- Reactor not tripped - prevents manual block of Safety Injection.
- P-11 On increasing pressurizer pressure, P-11 automatically reinstates Safety Injection actuation on low pressurizer pressure or low compensated steamline pressure signals, reinstates steamline isolation on low compensated steamline pressure signals, and opens the accumulator discharge isolation valves. On decreasing pressure, P-11 allows the manual block of Safety Injection actuation on low pressurizer pressure or low compensated steamline pressure signals, allows the manual block of steamline isolation on low compensated steamline pressure signals, and enables steam line isolation on high negative steam line pressure rate (when steamline pressure is manually blocked).
- P-12 On increasing reactor coolant loop temperature, P-12 automatically provides an arming signal to the Steam Dump System. On decreasing reactor coolant loop temperature, P-12 automatically removes the arming signal from the Steam Dump System.
- P-14 On increasing steam generator water level, P-14 automatically trips the turbine and the main feedwater pumps, and closes all feedwater isolation valves and feedwater control valves.

3/4.3.3 MONITORING INSTRUMENTATION

3/4.3.3.1 RADIATION MONITORING FOR PLANT OPERATIONS

The OPERABILITY of the radiation monitoring instrumentation for plant operations ensures that: (1) the associated action will be initiated when the radiation level monitored by each channel or combination thereof reaches its Setpoint, (2) the specified coincidence logic is maintained, and (3) sufficient redundancy is maintained to permit a channel to be out of service for testing or maintenance. The radiation monitors for plant operations sense radiation levels in selected plant systems and locations and determine whether or not predetermined limits are being exceeded. If they are, the signals are combined into logic matrices sensitive to combinations indicative of various accidents and abnormal conditions. Once the required logic combination is completed, the system sends actuation signals to initiate alarms or automatic isolation action and actuation of Emergency Exhaust or Ventilation Systems.

INSTRUMENTATION

BASES

3/4.3.3.2 MOVABLE INCORE DETECTORS

The OPERABILITY of the movable incore detectors with the specified minimum complement of equipment ensures that the measurements obtained from use of this system accurately represent the spatial neutron flux distribution of the core. The OPERABILITY of this system is demonstrated by irradiating each detector used and determining the acceptability of its voltage curve.

For the purpose of measuring $F_{\alpha}(Z)$ or $F_{\Delta H}^N$ a full incore flux map is used. Quarter-core flux maps, as defined in WCAP-8648, June 1976, may be used in recalibration of the Excore Neutron Flux Detector System, and full incore flux maps or symmetric incore thimbles may be used for monitoring the QUADRANT POWER TILT RATIO when one Power Range channel is inoperable.

3/4.3.3.3 (NOT USED)

3/4.3.3.4 (Not Used)

3/4.3.3.5 REMOTE SHUTDOWN SYSTEM

The OPERABILITY of the Remote Shutdown System ensures that sufficient capability is available to permit safe shutdown of the facility from locations outside of the control room. This capability is required in the event control room habitability is lost and is consistent with General Design Criterion 19 of 10 CFR Part 50.



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

RELATED TO AMENDMENT NOS. 111 AND 98 TO

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

STP NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY, ET AL.

DOCKET NOS. 50-498 AND 50-499

SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT, UNITS 1 AND 2

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By application dated March 30, 1999, STP Nuclear Operating Company, et al. (the licensee) requested changes to the Technical Specifications (TSs) for South Texas Project, Units 1 and 2 (STP). The proposed changes would delete TS 3/4.3.3.4, "Meteorological Instrumentation," and its associated Bases. The licensee stated that TS 3/4.3.3.4 and the associated Bases to be deleted have been incorporated into the Technical Requirements Manual (TRM).

2.0 BACKGROUND

Section 182a of the Atomic Energy Act requires applicants for nuclear power plant operating licenses to state TSs to be included as part of the license. The Commission's regulatory requirements related to the contents of TSs are set forth in 10 CFR 50.36. That regulation requires that the TSs include items in five specific categories, including (1) safety limits, limiting safety system settings and limiting control settings; (2) limiting conditions for operation (LCOs); (3) surveillance requirements (SRs); (4) design features; and (5) administrative controls. However, the rule does not specify the particular requirements to be included in a plant's TSs.

On July 22, 1993, the Commission issued its Final Policy Statement, expressing the view that satisfying the guidance in the policy statement also satisfies Section 182a of the Act and 10 CFR 50.36 (58 FR 39132). In particular, the Commission indicated that certain items could be relocated to licensee-controlled documents consistent with the standard enunciated by the Atomic Safety and Licensing Appeal Board in *Portland General Electric Co. (Trojan Nuclear Plant)*, ALAB-531, 9 NRC 263, 273 (1979). There, the Appeal Board observed "that technical specifications are to be reserved for those matters as to which the imposition of rigid conditions or limitations upon reactor operation is deemed necessary to obviate the possibility of an abnormal situation or event giving rise to an immediate threat to the public health and safety."

By this approach, existing LCO requirements that fall within or satisfy any of the criteria in the Final Policy Statement should be retained in the TSs; those LCO requirements that do not fall within or satisfy these criteria may be relocated to licensee-controlled documents. The

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Commission codified the four criteria in 10 CFR 50.36 (as amended in 60 FR 36953, July 19, 1995). The four criteria are as follows:

- Criterion 1: Installed instrumentation that is used to detect, and indicate in the control room, a significant abnormal degradation of the reactor coolant pressure boundary.
- Criterion 2: A process variable, design feature, or operating restriction that is an initial condition of a design basis accident or transient analysis that either assumes the failure of or presents a challenge to the integrity of a fission product barrier.
- Criterion 3: A structure, system, or component that is part of the primary success path and which functions or actuates to mitigate a design basis accident or transient that either assumes the failure of or presents a challenge to the integrity of a fission product barrier.
- Criterion 4: A structure, system, or component which operating experience or probabilistic risk assessment has shown to be significant to public health and safety.

3.0 EVALUATION

In its application, the licensee stated that the TSs for the meteorological instrumentation were provided to ensure that environmental meteorological parameters that may affect the distribution of radioactive fission products outside the plant following a design-basis accident are measured. Therefore, the TS requirements for this instrumentation do not meet the above criteria specified in 10 CFR 50.36. The licensee addressed each of the four criteria and provided its basis why the TS meteorological instrumentation requirements did not meet the above criteria in 10 CFR 50.36 and, therefore, why these requirements do not need to remain in the TSs.

The licensee stated that the meteorological instrumentation is (1) not used to detect a significant abnormal degradation of the reactor coolant system (RCS) pressure boundary; (2) not a process variable that is an initial condition of a design-basis accident or transient analysis that either assumes the failure of, or presents a challenge to, the integrity of a fission product barrier; (3) not assumed to function in a safety analysis as part of a primary success path or to mitigate a design-basis accident or transient; and (4) not a structure, system, or component which operating experience or probabilistic risk assessment has shown to be significant to public health and safety. The instrumentation is used to determine the meteorological conditions for dispersion of offsite releases of radioactivity for dose calculations. The staff has reviewed the licensee's basis and has determined that the meteorological instrumentation TS requirements do not meet the criteria in 10 CFR 50.36. Therefore, the staff concludes that the TS meteorological instrumentation requirements are not required to be in the TSs.

The Commission's intent in removing requirements from any TS for which controls other than a license amendment may be required was to relocate the requirements to a licensee's program or document (a licensee-controlled document) where any future change to the relocated

requirements would be under the change control process of the regulations (e.g., 10 CFR 50.59 or 10 CFR 50.54) or in the administrative controls section of the TSs. The licensee has stated that the meteorological instrumentation requirements in the TSs and Bases to the TSs have been already been relocated to the TRM for STP. Because the TRM is incorporated within the STP updated final safety analysis report (UFSAR) for the units, changes to the requirements on the meteorological instrumentation would be changed in accordance with 10 CFR 50.59. The 10 CFR 50.59 criteria are an acceptable change control process for the meteorological requirements that are proposed to be deleted. Therefore, the staff concludes that the TRM is an acceptable licensee-controlled document to contain the requirements proposed to be deleted.

In its application, the licensee provided the revised TRM pages that incorporate the LCOs and SRs from TS 3/4.3.3.4 and the associated Bases. The staff has reviewed the TRM changes and has verified that the information from TS 3/4.3.3.4 has been appropriately relocated.

Based on the above, the staff concludes that the proposed deletion of TS 3/4.3.3.4 and its associated Bases is acceptable.

The staff also corrected two typographical errors that were introduced by the staff with the issuance of Amendments 101 and 88. On page vi of the index the word "Instumentation" is corrected to read "Instrumentation," and the word "MonitorRn9" is corrected to read "Monitoring." The staff discussed these corrections with the licensee and the licensee finds them 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 (64 FR 24201). Accordingly, the amendments meet 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: Jack Donohew

Date: June 16, 1999