



South Texas Project Electric Generating Station P.O. Box 289 Wadsworth, Texas 77483

January 7, 2003  
NOC-AE-02001435  
10CFR50.90  
STI: 31530335

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Attention: Document Control Desk  
One White Flint North  
11555 Rockville Pike  
Rockville, MD 20852

South Texas Project  
Units 1 and 2  
Docket Nos. STN 50-498, STN 50-499  
Additional Information Regarding Proposed Changes to  
Containment Ventilation Isolation Technical Specifications

Reference: Letter from J. J. Sheppard to Document Control Desk dated February 14, 2002,  
"Proposed Change to Containment Purge Radiation Monitoring and Reactor Coolant  
System Leakage Detection Technical Specifications" (NOC-AE-01001247)

STP Nuclear Operating Company (STPNOC) submitted the referenced proposed amendment, which includes proposed changes to Technical Specification 3.3.2 requirements for Containment Ventilation Isolation Instrumentation (Functional Unit 3.b.4). The proposed changes include a provision for administrative controls to permit containment purge while the required instrumentation is inoperable. In the review of the STPNOC application, the NRC staff requested additional detail with regard to the administrative controls.

The NRC questions and the STP clarifications are provided below.

1. For Action Statement 18.b, administrative controls are proposed for purge valves with one less than the Minimum Channels OPERABLE requirement. Please provide information about these administrative controls.

**With one channel out, STP would purge only if necessary, and would limit purge duration. In addition, an operator would monitor radiation levels, with at least one operable channel to provide indication. The operator would be able to manually actuate isolation, in the event that the operable channel failed to actuate on high radiation.**

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2. For Action Statement 18.c, administrative controls with an alternate monitoring capability is proposed for purge valves with two less than the Minimum Channels OPERABLE requirement. Please provide information about the proposed alternate monitoring capability and administrative controls (if different from Action 18-b).

**With both channels out, STP would restrict purge as discussed above, and have an alternate method by which to monitor radiation levels. STP is currently considering the possibility of using other installed radiation monitors (such as the unit vent monitor), however the final determination of the method(s) to be used to provide alternate monitoring has not been made. An action item in the STP Corrective Action Program has been created to track the resolution of this item, which currently has a due date of January 31, 2003. Additionally, STP would maintain the purge valves closed until the alternate monitoring capability was confirmed to be available.**

STPNOC requests approval of the proposed amendment by January 31, 2003, to support implementation prior to the Unit 1 spring 2003 outage. STPNOC requests 60 days for implementation of the amendment after it is approved.

If there are any questions regarding the proposed amendment, please contact Mr. A. W. Harrison (361) 972-7298 or me at (361) 972-7902.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on January 7, 2003.  
Date



P. J. Jordan  
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awh/jrm

cc:

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