

June 17, 2003

LICENSEE: STP Nuclear Operating Company  
FACILITY: South Texas Project, Unit 1  
SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF HEADQUARTERS, REGION IV, AND STP NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY (STPNOC) MAY 15, 2003, TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL REGARDING SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT, UNIT 1, BOTTOM MOUNTED INSTRUMENTATION LEAKAGE ISSUE; STATUS OF ACTIVITIES (TAC NO. MB8435)

On May 15, 2003, the NRC Headquarters and Region IV staff held a telephone conference call with STPNOC, the licensee for South Texas Project, Unit 1. The conference call was a continuation of the ongoing discussions as a followup of the discovery of apparent leakage at the interface of reactor vessel bottom head and bottom mounted instrumentation (BMI) penetrations 1 and 46. Enclosure 1 is a list of participants. Enclosure 2 is a summary of scheduled deliverables. Enclosure 3 is the conference call agenda.

On this phone call the licensee briefed the NRC on the overall status of Unit 1, current status of nondestructive examination (NDE) activities, and repair design activities. The licensee briefly described its revised schedule of follow-on activities to address BMI penetration leakage.

#### Overall Unit 1 Status

The fuel is offloaded. The core barrel and lower vessel internals are removed from the vessel.

#### Continuation of Planned NDE Activities

STPNOC pursued two vendors as candidates for support. Both vendors had acceptable capabilities and were viable. However, STPNOC has selected Framatome. The licensee completed the onsite demonstration of delivery system. The licensee identified a problem of water depth for the full size mock-up. The licensee stated that it did not want to use the fuel pool due to potential contamination. The licensee will use 3 probes (circumferential, axial, and 0°). It described the sequence of scanning as follows: (1) do the complete scan of penetrations 1 and 46, and (2) then scan the other 55 penetrations in production mode using 1 probe for 55 then swapping probes. Penetration 31 has the nozzle having stuck thimble. The licensee plans to use a separate examination process for the nozzle having the stuck thimble.

The licensee expects to see meaningful data available after a week. After that there will be a period of lull as the licensee examines and evaluates the data. During that period the investigation staff will communicate the results to STPNOC management daily. During the

next week, the licensee will assess the NDE results and make decisions on the course of its actions.

#### Design Activities

The licensee has selected Framatome to perform the half-nozzle design as the repair option. The tooling and the preparation for welding are well under way. The licensee is fabricating a scale model for the vessel bottom penetrations at the site. The licensee expects to start repairs in the middle of June.

#### Root Cause Analysis

The NRC staff asked if the root cause analysis will address the impacts on Unit 2. The licensee responded that it will.

*/RA/*

Mohan C. Thadani, Senior Project Manager, Section 1  
Project Directorate IV  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-498

Enclosures: 1. List of Participants  
2. Summary of Scheduled Deliverables  
3. Conference Call Agenda

cc w/encls: See next page

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ACCESSION NO: ML031680617 \*See previous concurrence NRR-001

OFFICE	PDIV-1/PM	PDIV-1/LA	RIV (e-mail concurrence)	PDIV-1/SC
NAME	MThadani:sab	MMcAllister*	WJohnson	RGramm*
DATE	6/17/03	6/04/03	6/17/03	6/13/04

## LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

### Licensee's Participants

Ed Halpin	Plant General Manager
Dave Rencurrel	Manager Plant Operations
Mark McBurnett	Manager, Quality & Licensing
Steve Thomas	Manager, Plant Design Engineering
Alex Kent	Manager, Testing Program
Paul Serra	Manager, Plant Protection
Michael Lashley	Supervising Engineer, Testing Engineering
Wayne Harrison	Sr. Staff Licensing Engineer
Scott Quety	Outage Shift Refuel Manager

### NRC Participants

#### Headquarters

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William Reckley  
Sam Lee  
Carol Moyer  
Mark Hartzman  
Ed Andruszkiewicz  
Steve Bloom  
Kamal Manoly  
David Terao  
Allen Hiser (from home)  
Stephanie Coffin  
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#### Region IV

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Charlie Marschall  
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Tom Farnholtz  
Steve Doctor  
Wayne Sifre  
Jack Keeton  
Victor Dricks  
Brian Tindle

## SUMMARY SCHEDULE FOR CURRENT KEY DELIVERABLES

The following is a list of key deliverables and the date we anticipate having them available. These are subject to change, as more information becomes available. These deliverables will be submitted for NRC review or available for NRC inspection as appropriate.

- Relief Request submittal for use of weld material - 5/20
- Preliminary root cause report - 6/12
  - To include -
    - Failure Modes and Effects Analysis
    - Predicted failure mechanisms
    - Dilation and contraction analysis
- Relief Request submittal for half nozzle repair and temper bead welding - 6/13
- SBLOCA analysis - 6/13
- Design change package - 6/14
  - To include -
    - Section XI Analysis
    - Fracture mechanics analysis
    - Residual stress analysis
    - Corrosion analysis
- Final root cause report - 7/24

## CONFERENCE CALL AGENDA

	What	How	Who	Time (minutes)
1.	Desired Outcomes & Agenda	Review	McBurnett	1400 CDT (2)
2.	Overall status of unit 1	Discuss	Rencurrel	(5)
3.	NDE status and communication plan	Discuss	Thomas	(10)
4.	Status of repair design activities	Discuss	Thomas	(5)
5.	Revised Level 1 Schedule (includes licensing milestones)	Discuss	McBurnett	(10)
6.	Schedule for next call and handle any coordination needed for inspections or other communications	Discuss	McBurnett	(5)

South Texas, Unit 1

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