

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 8, 2003, TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL REGARDING SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT, UNIT 1, BOTTOM MOUNTED INSTRUMENTATION LEAKAGE ISSUE; STATUS OF ACTIVITIES (TAC NO. MB8435)

On May 8, 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 weekly discussions following the discovery of leakage at the interface of reactor vessel bottom head and bottom mounted instrumentation penetrations 1 and 46. Enclosure 1 is a list of participants. Enclosure 2 is the Conference Call Agenda.

On this telephone conference call, the licensee briefed the NRC on the status of nondestructive examination (NDE) and the status of planning for repair activities.

Overall Unit 1 Status

The licensee stated offloading of the core was proceeding and that 101 of the 193 fuel assemblies had been offloaded. The licensee expected to complete offloading fuel by May 9 and that the core barrel was to be removed on Sunday.

Planned NDE Activities

Lynchburg demonstration activities are complete and NDE Demonstration is ongoing at Waltz Mill today.

Full scale mock-up will be on site today. Plans are to have the mock-up flooded. On-site demonstration for Westinghouse is planned for Sunday and on Monday for Framatome. NDE delivery equipment will be packaged and shipped to the site. NDE data acquisition will commence on May 15.

Status of Repair Activities

The licensee has selected Framatome as contractor and has chosen the half nozzle repair option.

Root Cause Investigation

The licensee is following the Materials Reliability Program failure modes and effects analysis to arrive at the cause of the failure and leakage.

The licensee confirmed that the J-groove welds are stick shielded metal arc weld laid by hand. Preparations for full scale hemispheric weld mock up are in progress.

The licensee is evaluating other NDE techniques to provide information that will be useful to the understanding of the root cause.

Schedule for the next week

Special Inspection team will be on site. The licensee will keep the team informed. Licensee plans to have the next public meeting in the week of June 2, 2003.

/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. Conference Call Agenda

cc w/encls: See next page

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ACCESSION NO: ML031681113

*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	6/13/03	6/17/03	6/13/03

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Licensee's Participants

Tom Jordan	Vice President Engineering and Technical Services
Mark McBurnet	Manager, Quality & Licensing
Steve Thomas	Manager, Plant Design Engineering
Tim Bowman	Manager, Unit 1 Operations
Paul Serra	Manager, Plant Protection
Kevin Richards	Outage Manager
Tom Strochein	Supervising Engineer
Harry Murray	BMI Project Manager
Wayne Harrison	Sr. Staff Licensing Engineer

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Lee Ellershaw
Tom Farnholtz
Victor Dricks
Russ Bywater

CONFERENCE CALL AGENDA

	What	How	Who	Time (minutes)
1.	Desired Outcomes & Agenda	Review	McBurnett	1400 CDT (2)
2.	Overall status of unit 1	Discuss	Bowman	(5)
3.	High level status of NDE demonstration activities and planned activities for following week*	Discuss	McBurnett	(5)
4.	Status of repair design activities	Discuss	Thomas	(15)
5.	Response to some of the NRC questions from May 1 st meeting	Discuss	Thomas	(10)
6.	Schedule for next call and handle any coordination needed for inspections or other communications	Discuss	McBurnett	(10)

*STPNOC NDE personnel are on travel this week in support of the NDE demonstration activities and will not be on the call. This agenda item will be primarily schedule status.

South Texas, Unit 1

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