



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

August 5, 2002
NOC-AE-02001370
10CFR50

Mr. Ellis W. Merschoff
Regional Administrator, Region IV
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 400
Arlington, Texas 76011-8064

South Texas Project
Units 1 and 2
Docket Nos. STN 50-498, 50-499
South Texas Project Comprehensive Cultural Assessment

- References:
1. Letter, A. A. Thadani to W. T. Cottle, "Confirmatory Order Modifying License (Effective Immediately) and Exercise of Discretion," (EA 97-341), June 9, 1998
 2. Letter, E. W. Merschoff to W. T. Cottle, "Request For Partial Relaxation Of Confirmatory Order," November 24, 1999
 3. Letter, E. W. Merschoff to W. T. Cottle, "Relaxation Of Confirmatory Order Modifying License," June 24, 2002
 4. Letter, W. T. Cottle to E. W. Merschoff, "South Texas Project Comprehensive Cultural Assessment," November 1, 1999, NOC-AE-000691
 5. Letter, W. T. Cottle to E. W. Merschoff, "South Texas Project Comprehensive Cultural Assessment," April 17, 2002, NOC-AE-02001277

This letter provides additional information concerning our upcoming 2002 mini-cultural survey and the 2003 Comprehensive Cultural Assessment required by Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Order EA-97-341 (the Order) dated June 9, 1998, (Reference 1) as amended by References 2 and 3.

In Reference 3, the NRC granted permission to conduct the 2002 mini-cultural survey in the form of interviews and focus groups. In our letter requesting this change (Reference 5) we stated that SYNERGY Consulting Services Corporation would be conducting the interviews/focus groups. STP

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Nuclear Operating Company (STPNOC) has evaluated other contractors and decided to use Management Insight Technologies instead of SYNERGY for the 2002 "mini-survey". We intend to use Management Insight Technologies during the "mini-survey" in order to decide on a contractor for future cultural surveys. STPNOC still intends to use SYNERGY Consulting Services to administer the 2003 Comprehensive Cultural Assessment as we have done in previous years. The preparations for the interviews and focus groups are underway and they should be completed by September 2002. The results will be reported to the NRC as required by the Order.

Also, in Reference 2 the NRC approved changes to the requirements of the original Order (Reference 1) where "mini-surveys" would not be required to be performed in the same year as Comprehensive Cultural Assessments. The schedule STPNOC provided in Reference 4 indicated that the final Comprehensive Cultural Assessment would be administered in September 2003. However, STPNOC has determined that the 2003 Comprehensive Cultural Assessment would fit better within the overall station activities if conducted in January 2003. This timing gives an appropriate interval since the last Comprehensive Cultural Assessment (conducted in December 2001) and meets the requirements of the Order.

It is our intent to keep the NRC informed of the status of the Order while also assuring that we have no misunderstandings. If you have any questions, please contact Robyn Piggott at 361-972-7438 or me at 361-972-8757.



J. J. Sheppard
Vice President & Assistant to the
President & Chief Executive Officer

RDP

cc:

(paper copy)

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

Richard A. Ratliff
Bureau of Radiation Control
Texas Department of Health
1100 West 49th Street
Austin, TX 78756-3189

Cornelius F. O'Keefe
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
P. O. Box 289, Mail Code: MN116
Wadsworth, TX 77483

C. M. Canady
City of Austin
Electric Utility Department
721 Barton Springs Road
Austin, TX 78704

(electronic copy)

Mohan C. Thadani
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

R. L. Balcom
Reliant Energy, Inc.

A. Ramirez
City of Austin

C. A. Johnson
AEP - Central Power and Light
Company

Jon C. Wood
Matthews & Branscomb

A. H. Gutterman, Esquire
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP

M. T. Hardt/W. C. Gunst
City Public Service