

April 22, 2008

Mr. Gregory Gibson, Manager
Regulatory Affairs
STP Nuclear Operating Company
P. O. Box 289
Wadsworth, TX 77483

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION LETTER NO. 22 RELATED TO
THE SRP SECTION 10.03 FOR THE SOUTH TEXAS COMBINED LICENSE
APPLICATION

Dear Mr. Gibson:

By letter dated September 20, 2007, STP Nuclear Operating Company (STPNOC) submitted for approval a combined license application pursuant to 10 CFR Part 52. The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff is performing a detailed review of this application to enable the staff to reach a conclusion on the safety of the proposed application.

The NRC staff has identified that additional information is needed to continue portions of the review. The staff's request for additional information (RAI) is contained in the enclosure to this letter.

To support the review schedule, you are requested to respond within 45 days of the date of this letter. If changes are needed to the safety analysis report, the staff requests that the RAI response include the proposed wording changes.

Mr. Gregory Gibson

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If you have any questions or comments concerning this matter, I can be reached at 301-415-1494 or by e-mail at George.Wunder@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

George F. Wunder, Senior Project Manager
ESBWR/ABWR Projects Branch 2
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

Docket Nos. 52-012
52-013

eRAI Tracking No. 180

Enclosure:
Request for Additional Information

cc: William Mookhoek

Mr. Gregory Gibson

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* **Approval captured electronically in the electronic RAI system.**

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Request for Additional Information
South Texas Project Units 3 and 4
South Texas Project Nuclear Operating Co
Docket No. 52-012 and 52-013
SRP Section: 10.03 - Main Steam Supply System
Application Section: 10.3, "Main Steam System"

QUESTION

10.03-2

In FSAR Section 10.3, "Main Steam System," standard departure STD DEP 10.3-1, "Main Steam Line Drains," expands the discussion from the ABWR DCD, to state that the main steam system also serves as the "alternative leakage path" to contain the radioactive steam which passes the main steam isolation valves before they close to isolate the reactor under emergency conditions. STD DEP 10.3-1 provides information concerning the alternate leakage path that does not appear to be consistent with the information provided in ABWR DCD/Tier 2, Section 3.2.5.3, "Main Steam Line Leakage Path." Also, some of the information that is characterized as a departure is already reflected in DCD Section 3.2.5.3 and it is not clear why this information is included in the proposed departure; the proposed departure refers to "alternate leakage path" and it is not clear why the term "alternate" is used; and it is not clear whether any credit is taken for plate-out in the steam line drains. Therefore, the staff requests the applicant to provide additional information and be more clear and specific with respect to the departure that is being proposed for the main steam system.