

May 21, 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. 53 RELATED TO
THE SRP SECTION 05.02.05 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. 165

Enclosure:
Request for Additional Information

cc: William Mookhoek

Mr. Gregory Gibson

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George F. Wunder, Senior Project Manager
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Docket Nos.: 52-012
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eRAI Tracking No. 165

Enclosure:
Request for Additional Information

cc: William Mookhoek

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NAME	CLi	PWilson	SBrock	GWunder
DATE	04/14/08	04/14/08	05/15/08	05/21/08

* **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 Nos. 52-012 and 52-013
SRP Section: 05.02.05 - Reactor Coolant Pressure Boundary Leakage Detection
Application Section: 5.2.5

QUESTION

05.02.05-4

COL Information Item 5.1 under Section 5.2.6.1, "Conversion of Indications," in the FSAR addresses the requirement for the applicant to provide procedures and graphs to operations for converting the various indicators into a common leakage equivalent. The applicant's response to COL Information Item 5.1 indicates that surveillance procedures will direct the operator to convert the drywell leakage indications into a common leakage equivalent for unidentified and identified leakage to ensure that leakage requirements in the technical specifications (TS) are met. Furthermore, the applicant states, "The surveillance procedure measures levels in various leakage collection tanks over prescribed time frames and converts these levels into a leakage rate." The staff finds this methodology to be inadequate in the following areas:

- a) Only one of the four leakage detection instrumentation in the plant TS LCO 3.4.5 is addressed. It does not have "various indicators" specified in the COL Information Item. The applicant should specify how the rest of the various indications (i.e., drywell cooler condensate flow, airborne particulate and airborne gaseous radioactivity monitors) conversions to a leakage equivalent will be established and provided to operations as part of the important parameters to be included in the surveillance procedures for determining leakage rates.
- (b) The purpose of the COL procedures is not just limited to ensuring the TS limits are met. It also provides operators leakage rates information to take actions in response to low level leakage.
- (c) The applicant should address when the procedures will be available. Please include this information in the FSAR and provide a markup in your response.