

July 1, 2009

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

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION LETTER NO. 139 RELATED TO SRP
SECTION 05.02.04 FOR THE SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT COMBINED LICENSE
APPLICATION

Dear Mr. Head

By letter dated September 20, 2007, STP Nuclear Operating Company (STP) 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 **30** 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.

S. Head

-2-

If you have any questions or comments concerning this matter, I can be reached at 301-415-6197 or by e-mail at Tekia.Govan@nrc.gov or you may contact George Wunder at 301-415-1494 or George.Wunder@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Tekia V. Govan, Project Manager
ABWR Projects Branch
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

Docket Nos.: 52-012
52-013
eRAI Tracking No. 3053, 3054, 3056

Enclosure:
Request for Additional Information

cc: William Mookhoek
Richard Bense

S. Head

-2-

If you have any questions or comments concerning this matter, I can be reached at 301-415-6197 or by e-mail at Tekia.Govan@nrc.gov or you may contact George Wunder at 301-415-1494 or George.Wunder@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Tekia V. Govan, Project Manager
ABWR Projects Branch
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

Docket Nos.: 52-012
52-013
eRAI Tracking No. 3053, 3054, 3056

Enclosure:
Request for Additional Information

cc: William Mookhoek
Richard Bense

Distribution:
PUBLIC
NGE 1/2 R/F
GWunder, NRO
BAbeywickrama, NRO
TSteingass, NRO
NRay, NRO
SBrock, OGC
RidsNroDeCib2
RidsNroDnrlNge2

ADAMS Accession No. ML091820252

NRO-002

OFFICE	CIB2/TR	CIB2/BC	NGE2/PM	OGC	NGE2/L-PM
NAME	TSteingass	NRay	TGovan	SBrock	GWunder
DATE	06/03/2009	06/04/2009	06/09/2009	06/16/2009	06/18/2009

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

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Request for Additional Information No. 3053 Revision 02

**South Texas Project Units 3 and 4
South Texas Project Nuclear Operating Co
Docket No. 52-012 and 52-013**

**SRP Section: 05.02.04 - Reactor Coolant Pressure Boundary Inservice Inspection and Testing
Application Section: 5.2.4**

QUESTIONS for Component Integrity, Performance, and Testing Branch 2 (ESBWR/ABWR Projects)
(CIB2)

05.02.04-3

STD DEP Vendor discusses Table 1.8-21. The subject table lists the 1989 Edition of the ASME Code, while Table 1.8-21a lists the 2004 Edition of ASME Section XI for site specific components. Please make a distinction in the departure between the design of the RPV and the PSI/ISI program development. This discussion should also address the inconsistency in COL Information Item 5.2.6.2, which states the PSI/ISI program will conform to the 1989 Edition of ASME Section XI.

Enclosure

Request for Additional Information No. 3054 Revision 02

**South Texas Project Units 3 and 4
South Texas Project Nuclear Operating Co
Docket No. 52-012 and 52-013**

**SRP Section: 05.02.04 - Reactor Coolant Pressure Boundary Inservice Inspection and Testing
Application Section: 5.2.4**

QUESTIONS for Component Integrity, Performance, and Testing Branch 2 (ESBWR/ABWR Projects)
(CIB2)

05.02.04-2

COL Information item 5.2.6.2 states in part that any additional relief requests shall be submitted with a supporting technical justification if needed. The ABWR DCD, Section 5.2.4.2.2, states that physical arrangement of piping, pumps, and valves provides personnel access to each weld location for performance of ultrasonic and surface examinations, and sufficient access to supports for performance of visual, VT-3 examinations. In addition, 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(3) requires that Class 1, 2, and 3 components and supports be designed to enable the performance of ISI examinations. The staff expects that interferences due to design, geometry, and materials of construction be eliminated at the design stage such that no relief requests are necessary for the first 120 month ISI interval in accordance with the regulation. Relief requests due to impracticality of design are appropriate for intervals subsequent to the first 120 month interval per the regulations. The discussion of additional relief requests parenthetically implies that the regulation may not be met for the first ISI interval. Please revise the subject sentence to state that interferences due to design, geometry, and materials of construction are eliminated at the design stage and that no relief requests are necessary for the first ISI interval.

Request for Additional Information No. 3056 Revision 02

**South Texas Project Units 3 and 4
South Texas Project Nuclear Operating Co
Docket No. 52-012 and 52-013**

**SRP Section: 05.02.04 - Reactor Coolant Pressure Boundary Inservice Inspection and Testing
Application Section: 5.2.4**

QUESTIONS for Component Integrity, Performance, and Testing Branch 2 (ESBWR/ABWR Projects)
(CIB2)

05.02.04-1

SRP 5.2.4 states that the reviewer will determine if the licensee's relief requests have demonstrated that any ASME Code requirement is impractical due to design, geometry, or materials of construction. The issue of impracticality is addressed under RAI-2943, however, the ABWR DCD, nor the STP 3 & 4 COL FSAR list this element. Furthermore, the SRP lists relief requests as an essential element of a PSI/ISI operational program. Please provide a section addressing this element of the PSI/ISI operational program and state whether any relief requests are expected for the first 120 month interval.