

October 5, 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. 277 RELATED TO
SRP SECTION 8.2 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

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If you have any questions or comments concerning this matter, I can be reached at 301-415-4093 or by e-mail at Adrian.Muniz@nrc.gov or you may contact George Wunder at 301-415-1494 or George.Wunder@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Adrian Muñiz, Project Manager
ABWR Projects Branch
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

Docket Nos. 52-012
52-013

eRAI Tracking No. 3731

Enclosure:
Request for Additional Information

cc: William Mookhoek
Richard Bense

S. Head

-2-

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NAME	BBhatia	RJenkins	AMuñiz	GWunder
DATE	9/10/09	9/10/09	10/05/09	9/22/09

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

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Request for Additional Information No. 3731 Revision 2

**South Texas Project Units 3 and 4
South Texas Project Nuclear Operating Co
Docket No. 52-012 and 52-013
SRP Section: 08.02 - Offsite Power System
Application Section: 08.02**

QUESTIONS for Electrical Engineering Branch (EEB)

08.02-20

In response to RAI.02-15, the applicant stated that agreements would be put in place to establish the interfaces between the grid operators and STP operations and that ERCOT uses protocols, operating guides, and procedures for operation of the ERCOT grid which will support the offsite power requirements for STP. Additionally the applicant stated that STP will have a formal interconnection agreement with the Transmission Service Provider (TSP) which will require notification to STP prior to and during maintenance activities and prior to removing transmission lines from service and for STP to review and concur with proposed changes to the switchyard.

The staff acknowledges the applicant's commitment that the Interconnection Agreement between STP and the TSP will be established as indicated above. The applicant's response, however, failed to address communication between STP and TSP regarding risk-sensitive plant maintenance activities, such as removal of an emergency diesel generator from service. The staff requests that the applicant address this area of communication. Additionally, the staff requests that the applicant confirm if a quantitative or qualitative grid reliability evaluation will be performed at STP 3 & 4 as part of the maintenance risk assessment required by 10CFR 50.65(a)(4) before performing grid-risk-sensitive maintenance activities in the switchyard.

08.02-21

In response to RAI 08.02-16 pertaining to periodic testing of offsite equipment, the applicant addressed and provided details pertaining to inspection activities of the switchyard and its components. Additionally, the applicant identified the standards and guidelines that will be used for maintenance activities. The staff acknowledges the information provided by the applicant.

The applicant, however, did not provide any information on battery discharge testing, relay testing, circuit breaker timing test, potential and power transformer testing, ground grid testing, and arrester testing. Please address these tests along with the periodicity for these tests.

Enclosure