November 30, 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. 234 RELATED TO SRP SECTION 05.02.03 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.

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. 3904

Enclosure:
Request for Additional Information

cc: William Mookhoek
Richard Bense

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DATE	10/23/2009	11/5/2009	11/30/2009	11/30/2009	11/30/2009

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

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Request for Additional Information No. 3904 Revision 3

South Texas Project Units 3 and 4
South Texas Project Nuclear Operating Co
Docket No. 52-012 and 52-013
SRP Section: 05.02.03 - Reactor Coolant Pressure Boundary Materials
Application Section: 5.2.3

QUESTIONS for Component Integrity, Performance and Testing Branch (CIB2)

05.02.03-2

In the applicant's response to RAI 05.02.03-1, the applicant; (1) provided a proposed revision of its departure report and, (2) provided a proposed revision to Table 5.2-4. However, the applicant's proposed revision of its departure report (FSAR COLA Part 7, Section 3.0) does not appropriately address all of the changes made to ABWR DCD Section 4.5.1 and Table 5.2-4, as part of STD DEP 4.5-1.

Most of the modifications to Table 5.2-4 provide clarity related to product form, material type and component definition and do not involve changes in the material types that will be used. These modifications are described appropriately in the applicant's proposed revision (in response to RAI 05.02.03-1), to the description of STD DEP 4.5-1. However, the applicant's departure report summary does not appropriately address these changes. In addition, the proposed modifications to Table 5.2-4 that are discussed in the departure report references equivalent materials. It is the staff's understanding that equivalent materials applies only to non ASME Code components. Therefore, the applicant's reference to equivalent materials for RCPB applications is inappropriate. Further, the applicant has added austenitic stainless steel for RPV drain nozzles, but this modification is not referenced in the applicant's departure report. The applicant's proposed modification to Table 5.2-4, in response to RAI 05.02.03-1, changes the seal housing nut material to XM-19 material which is not addressed in the applicant's departure report.

STD DEP 4.5-1 list departures from Section 4.5.1 "Control Rod Drive Structural Materials," Section 4.5.2 "Reactor Materials," and Section 5.2.3 "Reactor Coolant Pressure Boundary Materials," and Table 5.2-4 "Reactor Coolant Pressure Boundary Materials." The applicant's departure report is incomplete and does not meet the requirements of 10 CFR 52, Appendix A, Section X.B.1 which states that an applicant who references 10 CFR 52, Appendix A shall submit a report to the NRC containing a brief description of any plant-specific departures from the DCD, including a summary of the evaluation of each. Therefore, the staff requests that the applicant modify its departures report, related to STD DEP 4.5-1, to address all departures from ABWR DCD Sections 4.5.1, 4.5.2, 5.2.3 and Table 5.2-4. The revised departures report should be separated into separate sections for each of the sections referenced above to provide clarity.