

April 27, 2010

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

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION LETTER NO. 338 RELATED TO
SRP SECTION 08.04 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 301-415-4093 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 Muniz, 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. 4602

Enclosures:
Request for Additional Information

cc: William Mookhoek
Richard Bense

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NAME	APal	RJohnson	AMuniz	GWunder
DATE	3/31/2010	4/1/2010	4/6/2010	4/27/2010

***Approval captured electronically in the electronic RAI system.
OFFICIAL RECORD COPY**

Request for Additional Information No. 4602 Revision 03

**South Texas Project Units 3 and 4
South Texas Project Nuclear Operating Co
Docket No. 52-012 and 52-013
SRP Section: 08.04 - Station Blackout
Application Section: Appendix 1C**

QUESTIONS for Electrical Engineering Branch (EEB)

08.04-4

In response to RAI 08.04-1 regarding the time required to declare the existence of an SBO, the applicant stated that the SBO clock (10 minutes) starts after the operators perform the immediate steps in the emergency operating procedures (EOP's) to verify the SCRAM, primary parameters, etc., and the attempt to restore offsite power and start the diesel generators from the control room per the EOP's as discussed in Appendix I to NUMARC 87-00, Rev. 1. The NRC staff notes that during an SBO inspection at one of the operating plants, it took as long as 15 minutes to declare the onset of an SBO after going through the EOPs and bringing the AAC power source to the safety-related bus in the next 10 minutes. As a result, this plant was in an unanalyzed condition for almost 25 minutes. This is inconsistent with the requirements of 10 CFR 50.63 which requires that the 10-minute criterion shall start as soon as the plant loses both onsite and offsite power to the emergency buses. Therefore, the staff has determined that no additional time is allowed to restore the offsite power source or restart the emergency diesel generator from the control room in order to determine the onset of an SBO. The staff requests that the applicant revises its response to either demonstrate that the total time to identify the existence of an SBO and bringing the AAC power source to the safety-related bus can be accomplished within the 10-minute criterion or provide AC-independent coping analysis for one hour.

Enclosure