

March 23, 2011

MEMORANDUM TO: Edwin M. Hackett, Executive Director
Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards

FROM: David B. Matthews, Director */RA Frank Akstulewicz for:/*
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

SUBJECT: SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT UNITS 3 AND 4, COMBINED LICENSE
APPLICATION – ADVANCED SAFETY EVALUATION FOR
CHAPTER 1, “THE SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT PLANT”

By letter dated September 20, 2007, STP Nuclear Operating Company (STPNOC) submitted an application to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for a combined license (COL) application for STP Units 3 and 4.

Based on our review of the application, the staff is providing the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) its advanced Safety Evaluation (SE) for Chapter 1, “The South Texas Project Plant” (ML110750306). Unless otherwise stated in the SE, the staff’s review is based on Revision 4 of the application. The advanced SE is being provided to support a meeting of the Advanced Boiling Water Reactor Subcommittee of the ACRS on April 21, 2011. The ACRS full Committee meeting will be held after the subcommittee meeting.

The staff has reviewed the Memorandum to the Executive Director of Operations dated February 17, 2010, and reviewed our submitted information against the categories that the ACRS requested to be used to highlight information for review by the Committee. Our assessment of this chapter is that there are no items that meet the categories to highlight for the Committee.

The staff notes that the following items are not included in the advanced SE for Chapter 1. These items will be added as appendices to Chapter 1 at a later date. These appendices will be provided to the ACRS and, if requested, will be presented to the ACRS at a later date.

- staff evaluation of Tier 1 and generic technical specification exemptions
- staff evaluation of the applicant’s financial qualifications
- staff evaluation of the 10 CFR Parts 30, 40 and 70 license application

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The staff concludes that the advanced SE does not contain any information exempt from public disclosure. However, the NRC will withhold the advanced SE from public disclosure for ten business days to allow Nuclear Innovation North America, LLC (NINA) the opportunity to verify the staff's conclusion that the advanced SE contains no such exempt information. Therefore, the staff requests that ACRS withhold the advanced SE from public disclosure until the information has been released publicly in ADAMS.

The staff will inform the ACRS immediately if NINA requests that any of the information in the advanced SE be withheld from public disclosure.

Docket Nos.: 52-012, 52-013

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The staff will inform the ACRS immediately if NINA requests that any of the information in the advanced SE be withheld from public disclosure.

Docket Nos.: 52-012, 52-013

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