



South Texas Project Electric Generating Station P.O. Box 289 Wadsworth, Texas 77483

June 4, 2012
NOC-AE-12002859
10 CFR 50.54(f)

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
One White Flint North
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852-2738

South Texas Project
Units 1 & 2
Docket Nos. STN 50-498, STN 50-499
90-Day Response to Request for Information Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.54(f)
Regarding Recommendation 9.3 of the Near-Term Task Force Review of
Insights from the Fukushima Dai-ichi Accident

- References:
1. Letter, Eric Leeds to E. D. Halpin, "Request for Information Pursuant to Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations 50.54(f) Regarding Recommendations 2.1, 2.3, and 9.3, of the Near-Term Task Force Review of Insights from the Fukushima Dai-ichi Accident," dated March 12, 2012 (ML12053A340)
 2. Letter, D.W. Rencurrel to NRC, "60-Day Response to Request for Information Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.54(f) Regarding Recommendation 9.3 of the Near-Term Task Force Review of Insights from the Fukushima Dai-ichi Accident", dated May 9, 2012

On March 12, 2012, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued Reference 1. Enclosure 5 of Reference 1 contained specific Requested Actions and Requested Information associated with Recommendation 9.3 for Emergency Preparedness (EP) programs. In accordance with 10 CFR 50.54, "Conditions of licenses," paragraph (f), addressees were requested to submit a written response to the information requests. The letter also provided requested due dates for written responses.

In accordance with the Reference 1, STP Nuclear Operating Company submitted an alternative course of action for providing the requested information in Reference 2. The alternative course of action included revised information due dates and the basis for those dates. As described in our alternative course of action, Attachment 1 to this letter transmits the responses to the following information requests: Enclosure 5, communications request #2, staffing requests #3, #4, and #5.

The only commitments in this letter are summarized in Attachment 2.

ADD 1
LRR

STI 33553629

If there are any questions regarding this letter, please contact Robyn Savage at (361) 972-7438 or me at (361) 972-7867.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on: 6/4/2012



D. W. Rencurrel
Chief Nuclear Officer

- Attachments: 1. Response to Request for Information Regarding Recommendation 9.3
Related to Communications and Staffing
2. List of Commitments

rds

cc:
(paper copy)

Regional Administrator, Region IV
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
1600 East Lamar Boulevard
Arlington, TX 76011-4511

Balwant K. Singal
Senior Project Manager
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
One White Flint North (MS 8 B1)
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852

Senior Resident Inspector
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
P. O. Box 289, Mail Code: MN116
Wadsworth, TX 77483

C. M. Canady
City of Austin
Electric Utility Department
721 Barton Springs Road
Austin, TX 78704

Eric Leeds
Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
One White Flint North (MS 13 H 16M)
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852

(electronic copy)

A. H. Gutterman, Esquire
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP

Balwant K. Singal
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

John Ragan
Chris O'Hara
Jim von Suskil
NRG South Texas LP

Kevin Pollo
Richard Pena
City Public Service

Peter Nemeth
Crain Caton & James, P.C.

C. Mele
City of Austin

Richard A. Ratliff
Texas Department of State Health
Services

Alice Rogers
Texas Department of State Health
Services

**Response to Request for Information Regarding Recommendation 9.3
 Related to Communications and Staffing**

Communications

NRC Request #2 – Describe any interim actions that have been taken or are planned to be taken to enhance existing communications systems power supplies until the communications assessment and the resulting actions are complete.

STPNOC Actions Taken/Actions Planned

1. STPNOC has purchased 2 additional satellite phones and 4 spare batteries with chargers for each Unit. These satellite phones will enhance the ability to communicate with offsite organizations. Procedures will be revised to inventory and check the functionality of the additional satellite phones, batteries, and chargers.
2. STPNOC has purchased 6 two-way radio batteries with chargers for each Unit. These batteries enhance onsite communications by increasing the length of time the two-way radios can be used by plant operations. Procedures will be revised to inventory and check the functionality of the dedicated radio batteries and chargers.
3. STPNOC has purchased 8 sound powered headsets for each Unit. The headsets enhance communications within the plant during a prolonged station blackout. The headsets will supplement existing headsets. They will be pre-staged in areas important to operations during this event. Operators will be able to easily locate the headsets and communicate with the control room while performing critical tasks. Procedures will be revised to inventory and check the functionality of the sound powered headsets.
4. STPNOC has purchased 6 diesel powered generators that could be used to provide power to battery chargers for satellite phones and two-way radio batteries. The generators will be included in the Flexible Coping strategies (FLEX) being developed for NRC Order EA-12-049 (ML12054A735).

Actions Planned	Estimated Completion Date	Condition Report
1. Procedures will be revised to inventory and check the functionality of the additional satellite phones, batteries, and chargers.	12/31/12	12-11657-13
2. Procedures will be revised to inventory and check the functionality of the dedicated radio batteries and chargers.	12/31/12	12-11657-13
3. Procedures will be revised to inventory and check the functionality of the sound powered headsets	12/31/12	12-11657-13

Staffing

**Response to Request for Information Regarding Recommendation 9.3
Related to Communications and Staffing**

NRC Request #3 – Identify how the augmented staff would be notified given degraded communications capabilities.

STPNOC Actions Taken/Actions Planned

1. Expectations will be communicated to ERO members to automatically respond to a designated staging area when made aware of a large scale external event (e.g. by direct observation, media reports, word-of-mouth, etc). These expectations will be communicated to the ERO by July 12, 2012. Procedures will be revised by December 31, 2012.

NRC Request #4 – Identify the methods of access (e.g., roadways, navigable bodies of water and dockage, airlift, etc.) to the site that are expected to be available after a widespread large scale natural event.

STPNOC Actions Taken/Actions Planned

1. STP has multiple roadways to access the site:
 - a. From the West – Highway 521
 - b. From the North – Farm to Market (FM) 1468
 - c. From the East – Highway 521
2. STP's owner controlled area is located on the west bank of the Colorado River. The river can be used to transport personnel and small equipment by boat from surrounding areas to the site.
3. Helicopters can be used to transport personnel to the site.
4. STP has road clearing equipment and a boat onsite which may be available after a large scale event.
5. STPNOC has an agreement with Matagorda County to provide local resources upon request or state and federal resources if there is a disaster declaration. These resources include road clearing equipment, off-road and high water vehicles, boats and helicopters.

NRC Request #5 – Identify any interim actions that have been taken or are planned prior to the completion of the staffing assessment.

STPNOC Actions Taken/Actions Planned

1. STPNOC is not planning on supplementing staff at this time.

List of Commitments

The following table identifies those actions committed to by the STP Nuclear Operating Company (STPNOC) in this document. Any statements in this submittal with the exception of those in the table below are provided for information purposes and are not considered commitments. Please direct questions regarding these commitments to Robyn Savage at (361) 972-7438.

Commitment	Scheduled Due Date	Condition Report
1. ERO members will be advised of the expectation to automatically respond to a designated staging area when made aware of a large scale external event (e.g. by direct observation, media reports, word-of-mouth, etc).	7/12/12	12-11657-14
2. Procedures will be revised to include the expectation that ERO members automatically respond to a designated staging area when made aware of a large scale external event (e.g. by direct observation, media reports, word-of-mouth, etc).	12/31/12	12-11657-15