



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

October 19, 2012

Mr. Kevin D. Richards  
President and Chief Executive Officer/  
STP Nuclear Operating Company  
South Texas Project  
P.O. Box 289  
Wadsworth, TX 77483

SUBJECT: SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT, UNIT 1 - REQUEST TO EXTEND THE DATE FOR  
REPORTING REACTOR VESSEL MATERIAL SURVEILLANCE CAPSULE  
TEST RESULTS (TAC NO. ME8840)

Dear Mr. Richards:

By letter dated April 26, 2012 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML12136A543), STP Nuclear Operating Company (STPNOC, the licensee) submitted a request to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for deferral of the reactor vessel surveillance capsule testing results for South Texas Project (STP), Unit 1, to June 14, 2012. As required by Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), Part 50, Appendix H, Paragraph IV.A, the licensee is to submit the summary technical report within 1 year of the date of capsule withdrawal, unless an extension is granted by the Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation. The licensee removed reactor vessel material surveillance capsule W from STP, Unit 1, on April 15, 2011, and the test report was to be submitted by April 14, 2012. The licensee has indicated in its request that the completion of testing and associated report preparation was delayed due to the failure of the tensile testing equipment.

The NRC staff has completed the review of the STPNOC request. The information provided by the licensee was sufficient for the NRC staff to conclude that that the extension to submit the test results for surveillance capsule W by June 14, 2012, is acceptable. Please note that this decision shall not affect nor delay any commitments related to the reactor vessel integrity. Also, the NRC staff received the reactor vessel material surveillance capsule test results by letter dated June 11, 2012 (ADAMS Accession Nos. ML12173A198 and ML12173A199).

However, please note that pursuant to 10 CFR 50, Appendix H, Paragraph IV.A, the licensee was required to request the extension by April 14, 2012, and the request was not submitted until April 26, 2012. Therefore, the NRC Region IV staff has been informed of the apparent noncompliance with NRC regulations and may take additional NRC actions.

K. Richards

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If you have any questions, please contact me at 301-415-3016 or via e-mail at [Balwant.Singal@nrc.gov](mailto:Balwant.Singal@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

 FOR

Balwant K. Singal, Senior Project Manager  
Plant Licensing Branch IV  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-498

cc: Distribution via Listserv

K. Richards

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If you have any questions, please contact me at 301-415-3016 or via e-mail at [Balwant.Singal@nrc.gov](mailto:Balwant.Singal@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

*/RA by LWilkins for/*

Balwant K. Singal, Senior Project Manager  
Plant Licensing Branch IV  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-498

cc: Distribution via Listserv

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ADAMS Accession No. ML12283A282

\* memo dated 10/1/2012

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DATE	10/18/12	10/15/12	10/1/12	10/18/12	10/19/12

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