



**Luminant**

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June 13, 2013

Mr. Arthur T. Howell III  
Regional Administrator of Region IV  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
1600 East Lamar Blvd.  
Arlington, Texas 76011-4511

**SUBJECT:** COMANCHE PEAK NUCLEAR POWER PLANT  
DOCKET NOS. 50-445 AND 50-446  
SPENT FUEL POOLS REGION II CONFIGURATION CHANGES

- REFERENCE:**
1. Letter from Elmo Collins of the NRC to Rafael Flores of Luminant Power, dated October 22, 2012, regarding, "Confirmatory Action Letter (4-12-004) – Comanche Peak Nuclear Power Plant, Units 1 and 2, Commitments Regarding Spent Fuel Pool Storage Practices."
  2. Teleconference between the NRC and Luminant Power regarding the schedule for the CPNPP Dry Cask Storage Loading Campaign, June 6, 2013.

Dear Mr. Howell:

As specified in Reference 1, Luminant Generating Company LLC (Luminant Power) is communicating the intent to change the configuration in the Region II spent fuel storage racks to support a planned dry cask storage loading campaign later this year.

These planned changes to Region II of the spent fuel pools only involve removal of fuel and placing the fuel into a long term storage canister. On June 6, 2013, NRC and Luminant staff participated in a teleconference to discuss these plans (Reference 2).

The cask loading is scheduled to start August 26, 2013, and be completed the week of November 15, 2013. Note that these dates are based on the current schedule, and may be subject to change. Nine (9) dry cask canisters will be loaded during the campaign (288 fuel assemblies). Fuel assemblies loaded into casks will be chosen from a candidate list of assemblies currently residing in the spent fuel pool. The vast majority of the fuel will be loaded from Region II locations. A small amount of potential candidates currently reside in Region I locations. Luminant Power will conduct dry cask loading activities as described below:

- Luminant plans on increasing spent fuel pool boron concentration monitoring frequency during fuel movement in spent fuel pool Region II for the dry cask storage campaign to once per 24 hours.

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- Fuel loaded into a dry cask canister will contain either a thimble plug or discharged burnable absorber. Fuel assemblies are to be loaded into a cask with the insert components currently residing in the fuel assembly. No control cods will be loaded during this campaign.
- No configuration changes for either fuel assemblies or fuel inserts in spent fuel pool Region II will be performed prior to the campaign.
- CPNPP procedures require a fuel inspection be performed prior to placing any assembly into a dry cask canister. If the results of this inspection are unsatisfactory, the assembly will not be loaded, but will instead be returned to the spent fuel pool. The assembly will either be returned to its original location, or it will be placed into a Region I storage cell.
- If a canister must be partially or fully unloaded for any reason, the fuel assemblies will be returned to their original locations in the spent fuel pool, or placed into Region I storage.
- Contingencies for other unexpected fuel handling issues will be addressed via approved fuel handling procedures. These procedures do not allow changing the location of an assembly stored in Region II of the spent fuel pools.

This communication contains no new commitments regarding Comanche Peak Units 1 and 2.

Should you have any questions, please contact Mr. J. D. Seawright at (254) 897-0140.

Sincerely,

Luminant Generation Company LLC

Rafael Flores

By:   
Fred W. Madden  
Director, Oversight & Regulatory Affairs

c - W. Walker, Region IV  
B. K. Singal, NRR  
Resident Inspectors, Comanche Peak