

Houston Lighting & Power Company

Electric Tower
P.O. Box 1700
Houston, Texas 77001

September 18, 1980

ST-HL-AE-538
SFN: C-0570

Mr. W. C. Seidle, Chief
Reactor Construction and
Engineering Support Branch
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Region IV
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000
Arlington, TX 76012

SUBJECT: SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT ELECTRIC GENERATING STATION
SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE TO NRC INSPECTION FINDINGS
DOCKET NOS. 50-498 AND 50-499

Dear Mr. Seidle:

The following is a supplemental response to Appendix A (Notice of Violation) to Mr. Victor Stello's letter of April 30, 1980, transmitting the investigation report (50-498/79-19 and 50-499/79-19) covering the results of your inspection of the South Texas Project (STP) in the period November 10, 1979 - February 7, 1980.

This letter will serve to clarify certain statements in our original response of May 23, 1980, and expand on others based on discussions with members of your staff which took place at the STP site during the exit interview for IE Inspection 50-498/80-19 and 50-499/80-19. It in no way retracts any of the commitments made in the May 23 response. Specific items addressed are identified by direct reference to the paragraph or section of our initial response.

Item A-7 Concrete placement activities

Tracking No. 79-19-10

Paragraph B.3.a of the initial response addressing corrective action to date and results achieved stated: "Production Pressure - Additional QC inspectors have been added to the Quality Control staff to assure that preplacement inspections are conducted in a thorough manner."

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This statement refers to a relative increase in QC involvement in preplacement activities based on levels of concrete construction activities and does not refer to the absolute number of qualified preplacement inspectors at the time of the initial response.

Item A-13 Failure to take corrective action when cadwelders needed recertification

Tracking No. 79-19-03

Paragraph B.4 of the initial response, corrective steps which will be taken to avoid further items of noncompliance, did not adequately address how QC inspectors would be empowered to stop work in progress until observed discrepancies are resolved.

Quality Construction Procedure CCP-25 authorizes the QC inspector to stop work in process until nonconforming conditions are resolved by a Project Site Engineering representative. In addition, this procedure requires that all such conditions and subsequent engineering dispositions be documented on non-conformance reports (NCRs). As a final measure to assure that individual inspectors are made aware of dispositions to NCRs which they originate, procedures will be revised to include feedback mechanisms which will make inspectors aware of dispositions to all NCRs.

Item A-20 Failure to inspect reinforcing steel for loose rebar prior to concrete placement

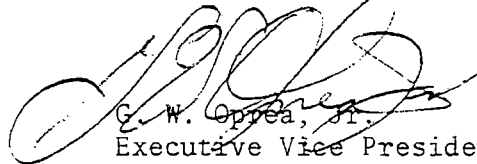
Tracking No. 79-19-11

Paragraph B.3 of the initial response addressing corrective actions to date and results achieved refers to corrective actions stated in item A-1, which essentially parallels the commitment to increasing manpower in the QC inspector ranks from item A-7. As in the response to item A-7, the increased inspector involvement is relative based upon levels of construction activity at the time of the initial response.

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We trust that you will find this response satisfactory.
Should you need any further clarification or information, please
advise.

Very truly yours,



C. W. Oppen, Jr.
Executive Vice President

GWO:jow

cc: Messrs. D. G. Barker
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