

U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT

REGION IV

Report No. 50-498/79-08; 50-499/79-08

Docket No. 50-498; 50-499

Category A2

Licensee: Houston Lighting & Power Company
Post Office Box 1700
Houston, Texas 77001

Facility Name: South Texas Project, Units 1 & 2

Inspection at: South Texas Project, Matagorda County, Texas

Inspection conducted: May 15-18, 1979

Inspector:

L. D. Gilbert

L. D. Gilbert, Reactor Inspector, Engineering Support
Section

6/1/79

Date

Other
Accompanying
Personnel:

M. L. Boyle, Division of System Safety, NRR
W. C. Seidle, Chief, Reactor Construction and Engineering
Support Branch

Reviewed:

W. G. Hubacek

W. G. Hubacek, Reactor Inspector, Projects Section

6/1/79

Date

Approved:

W. A. Crossman

W. A. Crossman, Chief, Projects Section

6/1/79

Date

R. E. Hall

R. E. Hall, Chief, Engineering Support Section

6/1/79

Date

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Inspection Summary:

Inspection on May 15-18, 1979 (Report No. 50-498/78-08; 50-499/79-08)

Areas Inspected: Routine, unannounced inspection of construction activities including review of procedures and instructions; observation of work; and review of records related to fabrication of reactor coolant system support columns for Unit 2. The inspection involved twenty-four inspector-hours by one NRC inspector.

Results: Of the three areas inspected, one apparent item of noncompliance was identified in one area (infraction - failure to have a procedure for monitoring welding operations - paragraph 3.b).

DETAILS

1. Persons Contacted

Principal Licensee Employees

- *L. D. Wilson, Site QA Supervisor
- *T. J. Jordan, Lead Engineer
- G. A. Marshall, Senior QA Specialist
- *D. G. Long, Lead Engineer
- *W. H. Moye, Senior Engineer
- *M. H. Smith, Plant QA Supervisor
- *R. L. Ulrey, Senior QA Specialist

Other Personnel

- *L. E. Tolley, Construction Chief Engineer, Brown & Root (B&R)
- *G. F. Ewert, Internal Surveillance QA Supervisor, B&R
- *D. D. Coppeler, Site QCE Supervisor, B&R
- K. E. Easter, External Surveillance, B&R
- T. J. Foley, Site QA Manager, Pittsburgh Des Moines (PDM)

The IE inspector also interviewed other contractor employees during the course of the inspection.

*Denotes those attending the exit interview.

2. Site Tour

The IE inspector toured the site to observe construction activities in progress and to inspect housekeeping.

No items of noncompliance or deviations were identified.

3. Reactor Coolant System Support Columns

a. Review of Procedures and Instructions

The IE inspector reviewed the PDM shielded metal-arc Welding Procedure Specification (WPS) 77-716, Revision 0; the Postweld Heat Treatment (PWHT) Procedure HT-2, Revision A; and supporting Procedure Qualification Report (PQR) 77-71, dated November 2, 1977. The documents were reviewed for compliance with the requirements of ASME B&PV Code, Section III, Division 1, Subsection NF, 1974 Edition including Addenda through Winter 1975 and Section IX, 1974 Edition including Addenda through Winter 1976. These codes were specified in STP Specification IC1195S035-G for fabrication of the eighteen Reactor Coolant System (RCS)

support columns for Unit 2 under Contract 19744. In the areas inspected, no discrepancies were noted between the requirements specified above and the PDM procedures and supporting qualification report.

No items of noncompliance or deviations were identified.

b. Observation of Work

The IE inspector observed the work activities of PDM during fabrication welding of the first nine RCS support columns. The IE inspector observed the fitup of RCS support column beam A1-4 to base plate C1-12 identified as weld seams 24, 25 and 26 on Drawing 1AB, Revision 0. Welding was observed being accomplished on RCS support columns AA-4 and AA-7 using WPS 77-71b. The backgouged root areas of the gusset plate welds on column AA-4 were observed being magnetic particle examined by PDM QC personnel.

The IE inspector noted that monitoring of the welding operation was being accomplished by PDM QA personnel as required by paragraph 5.11 of the PDM QA manual. The IE inspector requested the monitoring procedure for review and was informed by PDM QA personnel that the monitoring of RCS support welding operations was being accomplished using a monitoring program that was not documented in any instruction or procedure.

This noted failure to have an approved procedure is an apparent item of noncompliance, in that, activities affecting quality are not prescribed by documented instructions or procedures as required by Criterion V of Appendix E to 10 CFR 50.

c. Review of Records

The IE inspector selectively reviewed the certification documentation for ten pieces of plate material for the RCS support columns and two sizes of welding electrode for compliance with ASTM A588 Grade A or B and ASME B&PV Code, Section II, Part C, Specification SFA-5.1, Type E7018, respectively. In the areas inspected, no discrepancies were noted between the material certifications and the requirements of the specifications.

No items of noncompliance or deviations were identified.

4. Exit Interview

The IE inspector met with licensee representatives (denoted in paragraph 1) at the conclusion of the inspection on May 18, 1979. The IE inspector summarized the purpose and the scope of the inspection and the findings. A licensee representative acknowledged statements of the IE inspector concerning the item of noncompliance.