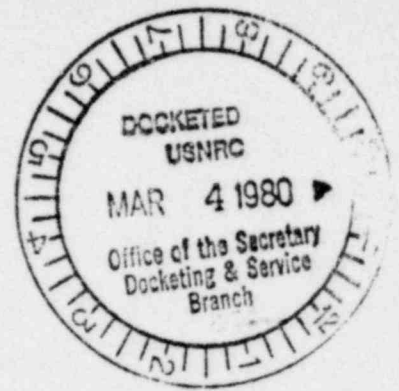


UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

Marshall E. Miller, Esquire, Chairman
Michael L. Glaser, Esquire, Member
Sheldon J. Wolfe, Esquire, Member



In the Matter of)	
)	
HOUSTON LIGHTING & POWER COMPANY, et al.)	
(South Texas Project,)	Docket Nos. 50-498A
Units 1 and 2))	50-499A
)	
TEXAS UTILITIES GENERATING COMPANY, et al.)	
(Comanche Peak Steam Electric,)	Docket Nos. 50-445A
Units 1 and 2))	50-446A

ORDER SETTING ORAL ARGUMENTS ON JOINT MOTION OF STAFF AND
JUSTICE TO COMPEL PRODUCTION AND TESTIMONY ON CERTAIN
DOCUMENTS; JOINT APPLICATION FOR SUBPOENAS AND TIME
EXTENSIONS OF EXPERT TESTIMONY; AND MOTION OF JUSTICE
TO COMPEL SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSES TO INTERROGATORIES
(March 3, 1980)

On February 28, 1980, a Joint Motion was filed by the Department of Justice (Justice) and the NRC Staff seeking a modification of the Board's prior orders regarding the protection of settlement discussions, and to compel the production of certain documents and testimony. These matters essentially involve the so-called "settlement privilege", and its applicability to factual evaluations or studies concerning the technical feasibility and cost of certain electrical interconnections. Such information allegedly bears upon the business justification of conduct of some of the parties to this proceeding. These movants asked the Board to accelerate responses to the Joint Motion to March 3, and to participate in a conference telephone call on March 4, 1980.

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Houston Lighting and Power Company (HL&P), filed a preliminary reply on February 29, 1980, agreeing in principle to an accelerated briefing schedule but suggesting that the proposed time was too short. HL&P requested that responses be required by March 7, and a conference call on March 10, 1980.

On March 3, 1980, Texas Utilities Generating Company (TUGCO) filed its opposition to the Joint Motion. TUGCO asked the Board either to deny the motion as improper, or to grant the parties an opportunity for oral argument.

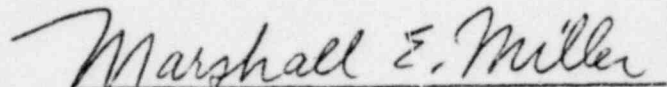
The Board has determined that the questions presented by the various motions are too fundamental and complex to be satisfactorily resolved by a telephone conference call. Accordingly, all interested parties are directed to hand-deliver all written responses and other papers to the Board by Thursday, March 6, 1980. Oral argument will be heard at 9:30 a.m., Friday, March 7, 1980, at 4350 East-West Highway, 5th Floor, Bethesda, Maryland.

Following oral argument on the Joint Motion, the Board will also take up all pending motions, including the Joint Application of Justice and the Staff for the issuance of subpoenas and limited extension of time for completion of expert testimony (filed 2/28/80), and Justice's motions to compel supplements to responses to its

first set of interrogatories and requests for production of documents to TUGO and HL&P (filed 2/28/80).

It is so ordered.

FOR THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND
LICENSING BOARD


Marshall E. Miller, Chairman

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland
this 3rd day of March 1980.