

The Light company

Houston Lighting & Power P.O. Box 1700 Houston, Texas 77001 (713) 228-9211

April 11, 1980
ST-HL-AE-447
SFN: V-0100

Director, Region IV
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000
Arlington, Texas 76102

Dear Sir:

South Texas Project
Units 1 & 2
Docket Nos. STN 50-498, STN 50-499
Unqualified Motor Operator for
the Turbine Driven Auxiliary Feedwater Pump

Units 1 & 2 of the South Texas Project Electric Generating Station are each provided with one turbine driven auxiliary feedwater pump. These pumps, which are to be located in the Isolation Valves Cubicle at elevation 13'2", are components of the auxiliary feedwater system whose function is to supply required water to the steam generators for decay heat removal when normal feedwater is not available during plant startup and shutdown and following postulated accidents.

The turbine-driven auxiliary feedwater pumps are supplied by the Bingham-Willamette Company of Portland, Oregon. The turbine drive units are provided to Bingham-Willamette by the Terry Corporation of Windsor, Connecticut. The turbine-pump assemblies have been delivered to the STPEGS site. Specification 3S149MS043-D, section 3.3.2.2, requires all electrical devices needed for the turbine to perform its safety-related function shall be qualified to those requirements for class IE equipment as specified by IEEE 323 and 344.

Houston Lighting & Power Company was notified by Brown & Root on April 10, 1980, that the turbine drive units are provided with an unqualified motor operator for the trip and throttle valve. This defect could affect the proper operation and safety function of the auxiliary feedwater system. Since the defective equipment is a basic component, the equipment has been delivered to Houston Lighting & Power, and the defect could create a safety hazard, this defect was determined to be reportable pursuant to 10CFR21. Consequently, Houston Lighting & Power Company notified the NRC's Resident Reactor Inspector at the South Texas Project of the defect by telephone that same day.

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The defective motor operators will be replaced with class 1E qualified motor operators by the Terry Corporation prior to plant startup.

Should additional information be required, please contact Mr. Shawn S. Rodgers at (713) 676-7953.

Very truly yours,



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