

## UNITED STATES

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV

611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 1000 ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011

October 22, 1980

In Reply Refer To: RIV Docket No. 50-498 50-499

> Houston Lighting and Power Company ATTN: Mr. G. W. Oprea, Jr. Executive Vice President Post Office Box 1700 Houston, Texas 77001

## Gentlemen:

This confirms the discussion between Mr. D. G. Barker and Messrs. W. A. Crossman and H. S. Phillips of my staff relative to your letter (ST-HL-AE-562) to me, dated October 17, 1980, in regard to your request for additional AWS safety-related welding.

Specifically, with regard to your request to perform Category I (AWS D1.1) structural steel welding beyond the limits of the agreement described in our letter to you, dated October 3, 1980, we understand that:

- 1. Your five commitments regarding AWS welding referenced in our letter to you, dated October 3, 1980, remain in effect.
- 2. Attachment 1 of your ST-HL-AZ-562 letter describes a twelve week work plan for the fourth quarter 1980 relative to additional production welding on a limited basis. The work plan covers the welding of structural steel for embeds up to 1-1/2 inch thickness in the fabrication shop while all other structural steel welding will be restricted to a thickness not to exceed 3/4 inch. The continuation of your re-examination and repair of previously completed AWS safety-related welding described in your letter (ST-HL-AE-555), dated October 2, 1980, is again identified in the twelve week work plan.

We concur with your plans to continue re-examination and repair of AWS welding as set forth in Attachment 1 of your letter. We request that you inform this office sufficiently in advance of field welding involving greater than 3/4 inch thickness, so that we may review the procedures for controlling such work.

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

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If your understanding of this matter is inconsistent with the above, please contact this office immediately.

Sincerely,

K. V. Seyfrit Director