UNITED STATES

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV

611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 1000 ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011 bcc to DAC:ADM: CENTRAL FILES PDR:HQ LPDR MIC NSIC

March 31, 1981

State

In Reply Refer To: RIV Docket No. 50-498 Docket No. 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. R. A. Frazar of your staff and our Mr. H. S. Phillips on March 26, 1981, and your letters of March 13, 1981 (ST-HL-AE-637) and March 25, 1981 (ST-HL-AE-642), tc Mr. Karl V. Seyfrit, Director, concerning further limited ASME safety-related welding as outlined in your 12 Week Work Plan.

With regard to the 12 Week Work Plan for safety-related ASME welding as shown in Attachment 1 of your March 25, 1981 letter (ST-HL-AE-642), we understand that you will continue to implement controls outlined in our letter to you on November 21, 1980.

Specifically, with regard to ASME safety-related welding within Reactor Containment Building (RCB) No. 1, we understand that you will complete sandblasting (except on a limited, controlled basis) and establish acceptable environmental conditions prior to welding. We further understand that you will notify this office sufficiently in advance of any plans to perform sandblasting in RCB No. 1 concurrently with ASME safety-related welding so that we may evaluate your environmental control.

We have evaluated the present ASME welding work and concur with your plan to expand the ASME welding and related activities as set forth in Attachment 1 of your letter (ST-HL-AE-642). We understand that you will inform this office sufficiently in advance of any plans that you have to extend ASME welding beyond that identified or of any plans to accelerate the above 12 Week Work Plan so that we may evaluate your program for controlling such work.

Region IV will continue to review and evaluate the implementation of your corrective actions as the ASME welding plan is expanded.

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

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Houston Lighting & Power Company -2-

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

Sincerely,

John T Colines

John T. Collins Deputy Director