

TIC

The Light company

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

September 12, 1980

ST-HL-AE-531

SFN: V-0530

Mr. Karl Seyfrit
Director, Region IV
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000
Arlington, Texas 76012

Dear Mr. Seyfrit:

South Texas Project
Units 1&2
Docket Nos. STN 50-498, STN 50-499
Third Interim Report on the Deficiency
Concerning Welds in the Essential Cooling
Water System

On March 12, 1980, Houston Lighting & Power Company notified your office of a potentially reportable deficiency concerning rejectable indications on the radiographs of the girth welds in the Essential Cooling Water System (ECW) pipe. The first interim report submitted April 10, 1980, stated that a review of the radiographs revealed rejectable indications for welds which had been previously accepted, and that a number of films showed radiographic technique/processing problems. The second report of June 13, 1980, tied this concern to the Order to Show Cause.

As a result of our Task Force review, HL&P will perform the following Re-examination and repair program for the ECW system:

- a. Accessible Welds (includes buried pipe)
100% RT and PT welds made to date and repair as required.
- b. New Welds
Utilize WES-4 random RT program for all new welds
- c. Inaccessible Welds
Use the results of (a) above for engineering evaluation.

This is a long term effort. A progress report will be submitted by December 15, 1980.

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Houston Lighting & Power Company

September 12, 1980

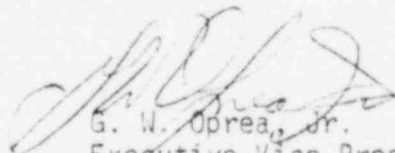
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If there are any questions, please contact Mr. L. R. Jacobi at (713) 481-7217.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "G. W. Oprea, Jr.", is written over the typed name.

G. W. Oprea, Jr.
Executive Vice President

PLW/ngb

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