

TLC

# 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.

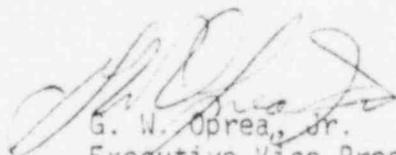
This is a long term effort. A progress report will be submitted by December 15, 1980.

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

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, 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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cc: D. G. Barker  
C. L. McNeese  
H. R. Dean  
R. L. Waldrop  
G. B. Painter  
A. J. Granger  
R. A. Frazar  
M. D. Schwarz (Baker & Botts)  
R. Gordon Gooch (Baker & Botts)  
J. R. Newman (Lowenstein, Newman, Reis, Axelrad & Toll)  
Director, Office of Inspection & Enforcement  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20555

M. L. Borchelt  
Executive Vice President  
Central Power & Light Company  
P. O. Box 2121  
Corpus Christi, Texas 78403

R. L. Range  
Central Power & Light Company  
P. O. 2121  
Corpus Christi, Texas 78403

R. L. Hancock  
Director of Electrical Utilities  
City of Austin  
P. O. Box 1088  
Austin, Texas 78767

T. H. Muehlenbeck  
City of Austin  
P. O. Box 1088  
Austin, Texas 78767

J. B. Poston  
Assistant General Manager of Operations  
City Public Service Board  
P. O. Box 1771  
San Antonio, Texas 78296

A. vonRosenberg  
City Public Service Board  
P. O. Box 1771  
San Antonio, Texas 78296

Charles Bechoefer, Esquire  
Chairman, Atomic Safety & Licensing Board  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dr. James C. Lamb, III  
313 Woodhaven Road  
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514

Dr. Emmeth A. Luebke  
Atomic Safety & Licensing Commission  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Steven A. Sinkin, Esquire  
116 Villita Street  
San Antonio, Texas 78205

Citizens for Equitable Utilities  
c/o Ms. Peggy Buchorn  
Route 1, Box 432  
Brazoria, Texas 77422

Richard W. Lowerre, Esquire  
Assistant Attorney General for the State of Texas  
P. O. Box 12548  
Capitol Station  
Austin, Texas 78711

Henry J. McGurren, Esquire  
Hearing Attorney  
Office of the Executive Legal Director  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555