

The Light company

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

February 3, 1981
ST-HL-AE-616
SFN: C-0510

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

South Texas Project
Units 1&2
Docket Nos. STN 50-498, STN 50-499
Unit II MEAB Settlement

Dear Mr. Seyfrit:

This confirms our conversation of February 2, 1981, relating to the settlement of Unit II Mechanical Electrical Auxiliary Building (MEAB).

Tilting or differential settlement and curvature of the mat were anticipated and factored into the design. Although the design criteria was exceeded the corrective action taken has brought the tilt and curvature within tolerance and it is expected that conditions will continue to improve.

The maximum design tilt in the MEAB is defined in FSAR Section 2.5.4.11 and is specified as 0.5 inches tilt in the North-South direction. This differential settlement criteria is to be applied at the time of penetration connections or pipe installations for Category I piping. The North local curvature criteria is defined as 0.25 inches. The values for maximum design tilt and North local curvature were exceeded by 0.2 inches and 0.05 inches respectively.

As I discussed with you, the tilt and curvature experienced by the Unit II MEAB foundations mat resulted from the deviation from the planned construction loading sequence. The major contributor to the situation was caused by our inability to place backfill around the North end of the building. This was discussed with the Resident Inspector on April 11, 1980.

The corrective actions taken to correct this situation involved the removal of approximately 11,143 tons of backfill from around the South and Southeast end of the building and the scheduling of concrete placements such that the North portion of the building will be loaded first.

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Mr. Karl Seyfrit
ST-HL-AE-616
February 3, 1981
Page 2

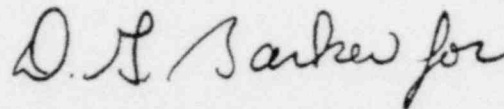
These efforts to correct this situation have been very successful. The following are the results of the latest evaluation of the monitoring data.

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>OVERALL TILT</u> | <u>NORTH LOCAL CURVATURE</u> |
|-------------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| 06/04/80 | 0.7 | 0.2 |
| 08/07/80 | 0.3 | 0.3 |
| 09/11/80 | 0.22 | 0.25 |
| 11/25/80 | 0.15 | 0.25 |
| 01/22/81 | 0.12 | 0.23 |

Monitoring of the settlement and curvature will continue and is currently being conducted on a bi-weekly basis.

If additional information is required, please advise.

Very truly yours,



G. W. Oprea, Jr.
Executive Vice President

DGB/cmd

Houston Lighting & Power Company

Mr. Karl Seyfrit
ST-HL-AE-616
February 3, 1981
Page 3

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