



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

MAY 29 1981

Docket Nos.: 50-498/499

Mr. D. D. Jordan, President & Chief
Executive Officer
Houston Lighting & Power Company
Post Office Box 1700
Houston, Texas 77001

Dear Mr. Jordan:

We presently have under review almost thirty applications for operating licenses. For your application, as well as most others, we are committing resources to assure that staff reviews are completed on a schedule consistent with your projected plant completion date. Preliminary schedules for facilities projecting plant completion in late 1982 or in 1983 were provided to Congress on April 30, 1981 in connection with the "Bevill Report." Your schedule was developed using your estimated construction completion date and a set of standard hearing assumptions.

The preliminary hearing schedules assume a standard eleven-month time period from the issuance of the final Supplement to the Safety Evaluation Report (SSER) to the NRC decision date. This time period incorporates the efficiency measures projected to be in place in the near future. It is based on five months from issuance of the SSER to the start of hearing, five months from start of hearing to the initial decision by the Atomic Safety Licensing Board, and one month from the initial decision to the Commission's decision date. These assumptions, and your relative priority, will be re-examined on a case-by-case basis after the Commission completes its consideration of proposed changes to the regulations.

To assure proper internal resources allocation, it is important that you provide us a realistic and up-to-date projected construction completion date. Because of manpower limitations each review will be scheduled to fall in a "window" of time wherein our reviews must be completed. An unexpected change of your completion date or your ability to provide needed information in accordance with this schedule will likely have an impact on the schedule for your review. Accordingly, you should examine your schedules in the attached Table and confirm or change your construction completion date within 14 days of receipt of this letter.

You should also provide quarterly updates thereafter until issuance of the Safety Evaluation Report for the facility.

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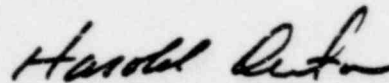


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For the staff to meet these schedules, all information concerning your application identified as needed must be provided by you or your contractors at least eight weeks prior to the date scheduled for the issuance of the Safety Evaluation Report. You should consider arranging to have members of your staff who can represent you and who can resolve any last minute open items, in residence near the NRC offices in Bethesda for a two week period starting six weeks immediately preceding the scheduled date for issuing the Safety Evaluation Report. Your staff should contact the Licensing Project Manager for specific needs related to the review of your application.

Your cooperation is appreciated.

Sincerely,



Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page

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Houston Lighting and Power Company
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cc: Mr. D. G. Barker
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Mr. R. Jacobi
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Houston, Texas 77001

Pat Coy
Citizens Concerned About Nuclear Power
5106 Casa Oro
San Antonio, Texas 78233

POOR ORIGINAL

TABLE 2.

CY 1983 PLANTS

DIVISION OF LICENSING - 4/16/81

Plant	Estimated Delay (Months)	Issue DES	Issue SER	ACRS MITG	ISSUE FES	Issue SSER	Start of Hearing(1)	ASLB Initial Decision(1)	NRC Decision Date(1)	Applicant Construction Completion
Callaway 1/2	0	09/81	10/81	11/81	01/82	11/81	04/82	09/82	10/82	10/82
St. Lucie 2	0	09/81	10/81	11/81	01/82	11/81	04/82	09/82	10/82	10/82
Palo Verde 1/2/3	0	10/81	11/81	12/81	02/82	12/81	05/82	10/82	11/82	11/82
**Seabrook 1/2*	0	11/81	01/82	02/82	03/82	02/82	07/82	12/82	01/83	01/83
Clinton 1	0	11/81	01/82	02/82	03/82	02/82	07/82	12/82	01/83	01/83
Wolf Creek 1	0	01/82	04/82	05/82	06/82	05/82	10/82	03/83	04/83	04/83
Byron 1/2	0	01/82	04/82	05/82	06/82	05/82	10/82	03/83	04/83	04/83
Perry 1/2	0	02/82	05/82	06/82	07/82	06/82	11/82	04/83	05/83	05/83
Midland 1/2	0	04/82	07/82	08/82	09/82	08/82	01/83	06/83	07/83	07/83
**Catawba 1/2	0	05/82	08/82	09/82	10/82	09/82	02/83	07/83	08/83	08/83
**So. Texas 1/2	0	06/82	09/82	10/82	11/82	10/82	03/83	08/83	09/83	09/83
River Bend 1/2	0	07/82	10/82	12/82	12/82	11/82	04/83	09/83	10/83	10/83

NOTES:

* FSAR not tendered

** Schedules subject to change upon resolution of NRC and applicant construction completion differences

(1) Based on a standard eleven-month assumption from issuance of SSER to NRC decision Date