

# The Light company

Houston Lighting & Power P.O. Box 1760 Houston, Texas 77001 (713) 228-9211

June 24, 1981  
ST-HL-AE-688  
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  
Fourth Interim Report Concerning  
Minimum/Maximum  
Soil Density Tests  
on ECW Backfill

On June 20, 1980, pursuant to 10CFR50.55(e), Houston Lighting & Power Company notified your office of an item concerning soil density tests on the Essential Cooling Water (ECW) pipeline backfill material. The attached report will provide a status of the progress completed to date. The next interim report concerning this item will be provided to your office by November 27, 1981.

If you have any questions concerning this item, please contact Mr. Michael E. Powell at (713) 676-8592.

Very truly yours,

G. W. Apprea, Jr.  
Executive Vice President

RRH/amj  
Attachment

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Director, Office of Inspection & Enforcement

Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Washington, D. C. 20555

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Page 2

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Washington, D. C. 20555

6-9-81

Fourth Interim Report Concerning  
Minimum/Maximum Soil Density  
Tests on ECW Backfill

The following information provides a status of the progress completed to date regarding the ECW pipeline backfill.

1. The construction procedure for conducting the ECW pipeline excavation and backfill has been developed, and the personnel training required by this procedure was completed on March 5, 1981.
2. The ECW System pipeline backfill bedding in the areas adjacent to ECW System Intake and Discharge Structures was requalified and accepted by April 8, 1981. Backfill within the cells of these structures containing the ECW piping has been excavated to allow the pipe weld repair program to proceed. The bedding was requalified by April 14, 1981.
3. Backfill bedding for the STP Unit II, 10-inch ECW System pipeline was initially requalified and accepted by May 18, 1981. However, additional bedding preparation is required in this area due to the surface disturbance and contamination of the backfill bedding due to heavy rains. The 10-inch pipes have been removed to allow the rework of the bedding.
4. The 3-inch ECW System pipeline east of the STP Unit II Mechanical - Electrical Auxilliary Building was removed from the excavation, and the previous backfill bedding excavated and replaced with TXI Category I backfill. The backfill bedding was compacted and accepted by May 21, 1981, and the pipes are now being replaced.

Additionally, information regarding this item has been transmitted to your office in response to Item 2, Appendix A, of the Order to Show Cause issued on April 30, 1980.