

*Certified original.
J. Carlson*

The Light company

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

July 8, 1981
ST-HL-AE-691
SFN: V-0100

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
Review of FSAR Section 2.5.4

The South Texas Project (STP) FSAR Section 2.5.4, "Stability of Subsurface Material" has been reviewed in its entirety in view of the investigation of Structural Backfill conducted in response to Show Cause Item 2. The results of the backfill investigation has previously been transmitted to your office by separate cover letter along with the Independent Expert Committees' "Final Report on the Adequacy of Category I Structural Backfill for the South Texas Project".

The FSAR review has in particular been focused on Section 2.5.4.5, "Excavations and Backfill" (per the April 30, 1980 Show Cause Order). The FSAR review discovered several items that needed to be more clearly explained and minor editorial changes. These changes were submitted as Amendments 17 and 18 to the STP FSAR.

Other information presently presented in the FSAR will be updated to include data developed during the Show Cause Order studies. This forthcoming update will include the new statistical analysis results for backfill densities, together with additional data from the ongoing geotechnical instrumentation monitoring programs.

As described in the response to Show Cause Order Item 2b, the evaluations of the liquefaction potential conducted for design studies are applicable and valid for the actually used backfill material. There are accordingly no changes necessary for FSAR Section 2.5.4.8 which discusses the liquefaction studies.

No changes other than those listed above have been identified.

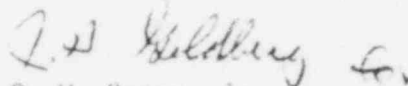
This letter constitutes our final submittal concerning Show Cause Item 10.

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If there are any questions concerning this matter, please contact Mr. J. W. Briskin at (713) 676-8779.

Very truly yours,



G. W. Oprea, Jr.
Executive Vice President

MEP/amj

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