## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

## BEFORE THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONOV 16 P3:21

In the Matter of

HOUSTON LIGHTING AND POWER CO. (South Texas Project, Units 1 and 2)

Docket Nos.

NOVI 8 1981 mm Sommission

CITIZENS FOR EQUITABLE UTILITIES
WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT PREJUDICE OF PETITION
TO SUSPEND CONSTRUCTION OF THE SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT

On October 29, 1981, Citizens for Equitable Utilities
filed with the Commission a Petition to Suspend Construction
of the South Texas Project. Based on a review of the design
of the project by the Quadrex Corporation, the Petition asked
that construction be suspended immediately and that any
further construction be prohibited pending a full hearing
on the relevant issues.

By letter of November 9, 1981, Houston Lighting and Power Company informed Karl Seyfrit of the NRC's Region IV that it had decided to cease virtually all of the construction activities at the project, with the exception of those necessary to maintenance and housekeeping. CEU appreciates this action and believes that HL&P is taking a constructive approach to completion of the project by halting construction until all necessary design and other reviews are completed.

In light of these developments, CEU asks to withdraw its Petition without prejudice. Counsel for both the NRC Staff and the Applicant have stated that we may represent to the Commission that they have no objection to the withdrawal being without prejudice.

CEU believes that significant questions remain concerning the conditions under which construction may be resumed and the procedural rights that should be afforded to CEU before that occurs. However, those will be addressed in separate filings to the Licensing Board and, if necessary, to the Commission.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: November 12, 1981