

The Light company

Houston Lighting & Power South Texas Project Electric Generating Station P. O. Box 289 Wadsworth, Texas 77483

October 9, 1990

ST-HL-AE-3599

File No.: G20, Z10

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

South Texas Project Electric Generating Station
Unit 1
Docket No. 50-498
Operational Readiness Inspection Observation #24

Reference: Letter from G. E. Vaughn to Document Control Desk, dated
March 18, 1988 (ST-HL-AE-2584)

Observation #24 noted a need to establish an improved method for cross-referencing surveillance procedures to other affected Technical Specifications. In the above referenced correspondence Houston Lighting & Power Company (HL&P) had committed to operate and maintain a Limiting Condition of Operation (LCO) Tracking System computer, alternatively known as the Technical Specification Management System (TSMS).

This system has become less than acceptable as the preferred method of tracking LCO's and surveillances. This situation has arisen due to a lack of maintainability of data to current versions of Technical Specifications, lack of user friendliness and corresponding lack of use. The system would require significant and costly upgrades to be functional at a usable level of confidence.

In addition, alternative means of tracking LCO entries and surveillances are adequate to ensure the compliance with Technical Specifications in this regard. The Operability Tracking Log is a procedurally controlled manual system where all Technical Specifications required equipment is tracked until restoration. Any surveillance conditional to the equipment's inoperability are also tracked, with each performance separately entered. These entries are reviewed by Senior Reactor Operator Licensed personnel. Also, routine and conditional surveillances are tracked under the control of the Plant Surveillance Scheduling procedure. This program establishes controls for a surveillance database which includes cross-references to the corresponding Technical Specifications.

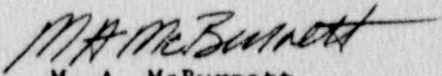
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These methods meet the intent of the original commitment to provide a tracking means for cross-referencing surveillance procedures to Technical Specifications and ensuring the tests are conducted. We note also that these additional methods have been in place for some time and have been reviewed during previous NRC inspections.

If you should have any questions on this matter, please contact myself at (512) 972-8530 or C. A. Ayala at (512) 972-8628.


M. A. McBurnett
Manager,
Nuclear Licensing

MAM/amp

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cc:

Regional Administrator, Region IV
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000
Arlington, TX 76011

George Dick, Project Manager
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

J. I. Tapia
Senior Resident Inspector
c/o U. S. Nuclear Regulatory
Commission
P. O. Box 910
Bay City, TX 77414

J. R. Newman, Esquire
Newman & Holtzinger, P.C.
1615 L Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20036

R. P. Verret/D. E. Ward
Central Power & Light Company
P. O. Box 2121
Corpus Christi, TX 78403

J. C. Lanier/M. B. Lee
City of Austin
Electric Utility Department
P.O. Box 1088
Austin, TX 78767

R. J. Costello/M. F. Hardt
City Public Service Board
P. O. Box 1771
San Antonio, TX 78296

Rufus S. Scott
Associate General Counsel
Houston Lighting & Power Company
P. O. Box 61867
Houston, TX 77208

INPO
Records Center
1100 Circle 75 Parkway
Atlanta, GA 30339-3064

Dr. Joseph M. Hendrie
50 Bellport Lane
Bellport, NY 11713

D. K. Lacker
Bureau of Radiation Control
Texas Department of Health
1100 West 49th Street
Austin, TX 78756-3189

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