



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV

611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-8064

APR 25 1994

Dockets: 50-498
50-499
Licenses: NPF-76
NPF-80

Houston Lighting & Power Company
ATTN: William T. Cottle, Group
Vice President, Nuclear
P.O. Box 289
Wadsworth, Texas 77483

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 50-498/94-12; 50-499/94-12 (NOTICE OF VIOLATION)

This refers to the inspection conducted by Mr. D. P. Loveless, and the inspectors identified in the attached report, of this office on March 10 through April 14, 1994. The inspection included a review of activities authorized for your South Texas Project, Units 1 and 2, facility. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with you and those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report.

Areas examined during the inspection are identified in the report. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, review of system logic diagrams, interviews with personnel, and inspection of plant equipment. The inadvertent safety injection actuation and loss of decay heat removal which occurred on March 10, 1994, were discussed in management meetings on March 16 and April 8, 1994. The first meeting was held in the NRC Region IV office and the second was held at the facility site. Both of these meetings were open to observation by the public.

Based on the results of this inspection, certain activities appeared to be in violation of NRC requirements, as specified in Section 2.3 of the enclosed inspection report. The violation is of concern because the lack of management controls allowed a test to be performed that had the potential to cause a loss of decay heat removal while the reactor was in midloop operations. Additionally, I am concerned that reactor operators failed to verify that they were performing the test in the correct protection cabinet and that, once they identified the error, they failed to inform the shift supervisor prior to proceeding with recovery actions. Also, it is my understanding that prior to the actuation, the shift supervisor had indications that reactor operators were not properly controlling the testing evolution. The failure of the shift supervisor to more fully review and understand the operators' questions is of concern. Please include in your response a discussion of this interaction.

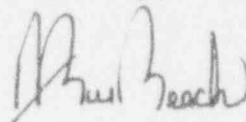
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Q PDR

JED

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room. The response directed by this letter and enclosed Notice is not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, PL 96-511.

Should you have any questions concerning this inspection, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,



A. Bill Beach, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Enclosures:

1. Appendix A - Notice of Violation
2. Appendix B - NRC Inspection Report
50-498/94-12; 50-499/94-12

cc w/enclosures:

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APR 25 1994

E-Mail report to D. Sullivan (DJS)

bcc to DMB (IE01)

bcc distrib. by RIV:

L. J. Callan

Branch Chief (DRP/A)

MIS System

RIV File

R. Bachmann, OGC, MS: 15-B-18

Resident Inspector

Leah Tremper, OC/LFDCB, MS: MNBB 4503

DRSS-FIPB

Project Engineer (DRP/A)

Branch Chief (DRP/TSS)

SRI <i>J. Callan</i>	C:DRP/A <i>J</i>	D:DRP		
DP Loveless	WDJohnson	ABBeach		
4/22/94	4/22/94	4/25/94		

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