

DEC 17 1990

Docket Nos. 50-498  
50-499  
License Nos. NPF-76  
NPF-80

Houston Lighting & Power Company  
ATTN: Donald P. Hall, Group  
Vice President, Nuclear  
P.O. Box 1700  
Houston, Texas 77251

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF DEVIATION (NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-498/90-36;  
50-499/90-36)

This refers to the inspection conducted by Messrs. W. B. Jones, G. Dick, H. Bundy, and S. Bitter of this office on November 5-9, 1990. The inspection included a review of activities authorized for the South Texas Project, Units 1 and 2. At the conclusion of the inspection the findings were discussed with the members of your staff identified in the enclosed inspection report.

Areas examined during the inspection included followup of Three Mile Island (TMI) action items for Unit 2 and programmatic enhancements for loss of decay heat removal. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examination of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observations by the NRC inspectors. The inspection findings are documented in the enclosed inspection report.

On the basis of the results of this inspection, certain of your activities appeared to deviate from a commitment made to the NRC. Our inspection confirmed your incorporation of certain TMI action item requirements into the hardware and programmatic aspects of Unit 2. However, we are concerned about your failure to fully implement or fully evaluate a change to a commitment to provide an administrative aide on each operations shift crew. This appears to deviate from a commitment made to the NRC, as specified in the enclosed Notice of Deviation.

You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. In your response, you should document the specific actions taken and any additional actions you plan to prevent recurrence. After reviewing your response to this Notice, including your proposed corrective actions and the results of future inspections, the NRC will determine whether further NRC enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with NRC regulatory requirements. Your response should be based on the specifics contained in the Notice of Deviation enclosed with this letter.

*RIV:ORP/D	*PM	*TPS:DRS	*RI:DRP/B	*C:DRP/D
WBJones/lr	GDick	HBundy	SBitter	ATHowell
12/ /90	12/ /90	12/ /90	12/ /90	12/ /90

D:DRR  
S:Collins  
12/13/90

\*previously concurred

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PDR ADDCK 0500049B  
Q PDR

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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room. The response directed by this letter and enclosed Notice are 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,

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Samuel J. Collins, Director  
Division of Reactor Projects

Enclosures:

1. Appendix A - Notice of Deviation
2. Appendix B - NRC Inspection Report  
50-498/90-36  
50-499/90-36

cc w/enclosures:

Houston Lighting & Power Company  
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Operations Support Licensing  
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Wadsworth, Texas 77483

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

City Public Service Board  
ATTN: R. J. Costello/M. T. Hardt  
P.O. Box 1771  
San Antonio, Texas 78296

Newman & Holtzinger, P. C.  
ATTN: Jack R. Newman, Esq.  
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Washington, D.C. 20036

Central Power and Light Company  
ATTN: R. P. Verret/D. E. Ward  
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Houston Lighting & Power Company  
ATTN: Rufus S. Scott, Associate  
General Counsel  
P.O. Box 61867  
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bcc to DMB (IE01)

bcc distrib. by RIV:

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\*w/766

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\*Project Engineer (DRP/D)