

APR 10 1992

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: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 50-498/92-06; 50-499/92-06 (NOTICE OF VIOLATION)

This refers to the special inspection of the South Texas Project motor-operated valve program conducted by two NRC inspectors and a consultant on February 24-28, 1992. The inspection included a review of activities authorized for your South Texas Project facility. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with you and those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report and during the followup telephone exit meeting conducted on March 19, 1992, between Mr. Rosen and others of your staff and Mr. Westerman of this office.

This inspection examined your program for implementing your commitments to Generic Letter (GL) 89-10, "Safety-Related Motor-Operated Valve Testing and Surveillance." As a result of this inspection, we considered the development of your program to be generally in accordance with your commitments to GL 89-10. Your approach to dynamically testing a high percentage of motor-operated valves under maximum achievable conditions was considered a strength. We consider the operability of certain valves to be unresolved pending review by the NRC staff of the test data utilized by your principal vendors and the basis of the site-specific operability criteria that has been provided for your facility. In addition, several weaknesses are identified in this report regarding the timing of program development and the validation of original design assumptions. Three response items were identified where information is required to facilitate our evaluation of your program. We understand that you have agreed to reply to the three response items described in the report within 90 days of receipt of this letter, please inform us immediately if you do not agree with this commitment.

Based on the results of this inspection, certain of your activities appeared to be in violation of NRC requirements, as specified in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice). This violation is of concern because the controls placed

*RIV:RI:PSS	*RI:PSS	*C:PSS	D:DRS	D:DRP
Mrunyan/cjg	Pgoldberg	Twesterman	SJCollins	for ABBeach
/ /92	/ /92	/ /92	KO /92	4/10/92

*Previously concurred

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Q PDR

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on engineering dispositions of nonconforming conditions are vital to the safe operation of the plant during periods when system or component inoperability is under evaluation. In your response, you are requested to address your review of this violation to determine if it is programmatic to other engineering evaluations performed as part of other conditional release authorizations. 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.

In accordance with 10 CFR Part 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 responses directed by this letter and the 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, Publication L. No. 96.511.

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

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:
Thomas P. Gwynn
A. Bill Beach, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Enclosures:

1. Appendix A - Notice of Violation
2. Appendix B - NRC Inspection Report
50-498/92-06
50-499/92-06

cc w/enclosures:
Houston Lighting & Power Company
ATTN: William J. Jump, Manager
Nuclear Licensing
P.O. Box 289
Wadsworth, Texas 77483

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

Houston Lighting & Power Company -3-

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.
1615 L Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20036

Central Power and Light Company
ATTN: D. E. Ward/T. M. Puckett
P.O. Box 2121
Corpus Christi Texas 78403

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Records Center
1100 Circle 75 Parkway
Atlanta, Georgia 30339-3064

Mr. Joseph M. Hendrie
50 Bellport Lane
Bellport, New York 11713

Bureau of Radiation Control
State of Texas
1101 West 49th Street
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Judge, Matagorda County
Matagorda County Courthouse
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Licensing Representative
Houston Lighting & Power Company
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Houston Lighting & Power Company
ATTN: Rufus S. Scott, Associate
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P.O. Box 61867
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bcc w/enclosures:

bcc to DMB (IE01)

bcc distrib. by RIV:

R. D. Martin

DRP

DRS

DRSS-RPEPS

RIV File

RSTS Operator

M. Runyan

T. Westerman

Resident Inspector

Section Chief (DRP/D)

MIS System

Lisa Shea, RM/ALF

R. Bachmann, OGC

Project Engineer (DRP/D)

P. Goldberg

Elizabeth Hackley, 7E23

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