



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV

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ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-8064

DEC - 1 1995

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

SUBJECT: LICENSED OPERATOR EXAMINATIONS AT SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT
NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-498/96-10; 50-499/96-10

In a telephone conversation on November 27, 1995, between Mr. Howard Bundy, Licensing Examiner, and Mr. Mike DeFrees, Lead Instructor, Licensed Operator Training, arrangements were made for the administration of licensing examinations at the South Texas Project facility.

The written examinations are scheduled for April 8, 1996, and the operating tests are scheduled for April 9-12, 1996. Your staff will be given an opportunity to review the licensing examinations in accordance with the guidelines in Revision 7 of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examiner Standards," (ES-201, Attachment 4) during the weeks of March 4 and March 18, 1996.

To prepare the examinations and meet the above schedule, it will be necessary for your staff to furnish the reference materials identified in Attachment 2 of ES-201 by January 8, 1996. Any delay in receiving approved and indexed reference material or the submittal of inadequate or incomplete reference material may result in the examinations being rescheduled.

The NRC will prepare and administer the written examinations in accordance with ES-401 and ES-402 of NUREG-1021. In order to conduct the requested examinations, it will be necessary for your staff to provide adequate space and accommodations on the date noted above. The NRC's guidelines for administering the written examinations are described in ES-402, Attachment 1.

The NRC will prepare and administer the operating tests in accordance with ES-301 and ES-302 of NUREG-1021. In order to conduct the requested operating tests, it will be necessary for your staff to make the simulation facility available on the dates noted above. Your staff should retain the original simulator performance data (e.g., system pressures, temperatures, and levels) generated during the dynamic operating tests until the examination results are final. To facilitate efficient scheduling and the best possible measure of applicant performance, examinations will be scheduled during normal business hours as discussed with Mr. DeFrees. In addition a proposed examination validation schedule for the week of March 18, 1996, was concurred with by

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Mr. DeFrees. It will require the use of the plant simulation facility on day shift on March 20-22, 1996. If you expect to need different schedules, please inform us as soon as possible.

ES-402, Attachment 2, and ES-302, Attachment 1, contain a number of NRC policies and guidelines that will be in effect while the written examination and operating tests are being administered.

Your staff should submit preliminary reactor operator and senior reactor operator license applications and waiver requests at least 30 days before the first examination date so that the NRC will be able to review the applications and the medical certifications and evaluate any requested waivers. If the applications are not received at least 30 days before the examination date, a postponement may be necessary. Final, signed applications certifying that all training has been completed should be submitted at least 14 days before the first examination date.

This request is covered by Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Clearance Number 3150-0101, which expires April 30, 1997. The estimated average burden is 7.7 hours per response, including gathering, copying, and mailing the required material. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Information and Records Management Branch, T-6 F33, Division of Information Support Services, Office of Information Resources Management, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555; and to the Paperwork Reduction Project (3150-0101), Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, NEOB-10202, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, D.C. 20503.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Mr. DeFrees has been advised of the policies and guidelines referenced in this letter. If you have any questions regarding the NRC's examination procedures and guidelines, please contact Messrs. Howard Bundy at (817)860-8172, or Joseph Tapia at (817)860-8243 of my staff.

Sincerely,



Thomas P. Gwynn, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

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

Houston Lighting & Power Company

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Houston Lighting & Power Company

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E-Mail report to D. Nelson (DJN)

E-Mail report to NRR Event Tracking System (IPAS)

bcc to DMB (IE01) (IE42)

bcc distrib. by RIV:

L. J. Callan

Branch Chief (DRP/A)

MIS System

RIV File

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

S. Richards (NRR/HOLB)

L. Hurley

Resident Inspector

Leah Tremper (OC/LFDCB, MS: TWFN 9E10)

DRSS-FIPB

Project Engineer (DRP/A)

Branch Chief (DRP/TSS)

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11/30/95		11/30/95		12/1/95				

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