



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV

611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400
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: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 50-498/95-98; 50-499/95-98

This refers to the inspection conducted by Mr. C. J. Paulk and Ms. L. J. Smith of this office on August 8, 1995, via telephone with personnel from the South Texas Project Electric Generating Station, Units 1 and 2, facility. Information gained during NRC Inspection 50-498/95-10; 50-499/95-10 was also used in preparing this report. This initiative was prompted by recurring failures of safety-related steam turbine-driven standby pumps at several facilities in Region IV. We concurrently performed this inspection at most Region IV facilities to better understand the scope of design, maintenance, and testing practices related to safety-related steam turbines, which were supplied by the Terry Corporation. We also examined several aspects of various experience review processes to determine why similar failures continued to occur. On November 9, 1995, at the conclusion of the in-office review, the findings were discussed with 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, representative records, and interviews with personnel. The combined results of this inspection for each of the Region IV facilities are documented in the enclosed report and executive summary.

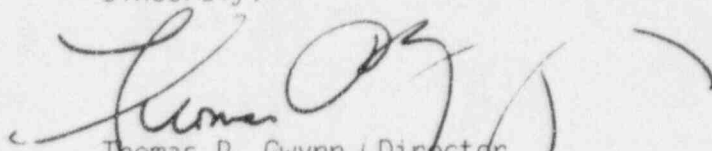
With respect to your facility, the inspection noted that most of the failure mechanisms examined during this inspection had previously occurred at your facility and had been the subject of NRC Information Notices. Your previous corrective actions appeared effective and addressed both units, when appropriate. We also noted that the Terry Turbine User's Group, of which your staff has been an essential part, initiated several programs to improve standby turbine reliability at member facilities.

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.

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

Sincerely,



Thomas P. Gwynn, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

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

Enclosure:
NRC Inspection Report
50-498/95-98; 50-499/95-98
w/attachments

cc w/enclosure:
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44 Nichols Road
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E-Mail report to D. Nelson (DJN)
 E-Mail report to NRR Event Tracking System (IPAS)

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: TWFN 9E10)
 DRSS-FIPB
 Project Engineer (DRP/A)
 Branch Chief (DRP/TSS)

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LJSmith <i>LJS</i>	CJPauk*	CAVanDenburgh*	TPGwynn <i>TP</i>	JEDyer <i>JED</i>	TPGwynn <i>TP</i>				
11/29/95	11/22/95	11/22/95	12/1/95	11/ /95	12/1/95				

*previously concurred

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

E-Mail report to D. Nelson (DJN)
E-Mail report to NRR Event Tracking System (IPAS)

bcc to DMB (IE01)

bcc distrib. by RIV:

L. J. Callan	Resident Inspector
Branch Chief (DRP/A)	Leah Tremper (OC/LFDCB, MS: TWFN 9E10)
MIS System	DRSS-FIPB
RIV File	Project Engineer (DRP/A)
R. Bachmann, OGC (MS: 15-B-18)	Branch Chief (DRP/TSS)

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LJSmith <i>LJS</i>	CJPaulk*	CAVanDenburgh*	TPGwynn	<i>MY</i>	JEDyer <i>CS</i>	TPGwynn	<i>TPY</i>		
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