UNITED STATES



NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV

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

MAR 4 1996

TU Electric
ATTN: C. L. Terry, Group Vice President
Nuclear Production
Energy Plaza
1601 Bryan Street, 12th Floor
Dallas, Texas 75201-3411

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 50-445/96-02 AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION

This refers to the inspection conducted by Messrs. A. Gody, Jr., D. Graves, and Ms. V. Ordaz-Purkey, of this office on January 17-30, 1996, at the Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station, Units 1 and 2, facility. The purpose of the inspection was to determine whether activities authorized by the license were conducted safely and in accordance with NRC requirements. 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. The inspectors reviewed the circumstances surrounding the safety injection and reactor trip that occurred on January 17, 1996, on Unit 1, and the reactor trip that occurred on January 22, 1996, also on Unit 1. Failures of safety related inverters contributed to the initiation of both events either directly or by subsequent operator actions. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observation of activities in progress.

Based on the results of this inspection, the NRC has determined that a violation of NRC requirements occurred. This violation is cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice) and the circumstances surrounding it are described in detail in the subject inspection report. The violation is of concern because in both instances, plant staff following the procedural guidance for recovery from the loss of inverters, initiated significant transients which tripped the reactor and challenged safety systems.

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. Your response may reference or include previous docketed correspondence, if the correspondence adequately addresses the required response. 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 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosures, and your response will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR). To the extent possible, your response should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be placed in the PDR without redaction.

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, Pub. L. No. 96.511.

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

Sincerely,

J. E. Dyer, Director

Division of Reactor Projects

Dockets: 50-445

50-446

Licenses: NPF-87

NPF-89

Enclosures:

 Notice of Violation
 NRC Inspection Report 50-445/96-02

cc w/enclosures:

TU Electric

ATTN: Roger D. Walker, Manager of Regulatory Affairs for Nuclear Engineering Organization

Energy Plaza 1601 Bryan Street, 12th Floor Dallas, Texas 75201-3411

Juanita Ellis President - CASE 1426 South Polk Street Dallas, Texas 75224

TU Electric Bethesda Licensing 3 Metro Center, Suite 610 Bethesda, Maryland 20814 Morgan, Lewis & Bockius ATTN: George L. Edgar, Esq. 1800 M. Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20036

Texas Department of Licensing & Regulation ATTN: G. R. Bynog, Program Manager/ Chief Inspector Boiler Division P.O. Box 12157, Capitol Station Austin, Texas 78711

Honorable Dale McPherson County Judge P.O. Box 851 Glen Rose, Texas 76043

Texas Radiation Control Program Director 1100 West 49th Street Austin, Texas 78756

Office of the Governor
ATTN: Susan Rieff, Director
Environmental Policy
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, Texas 78711

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

bcc to DMB (IEO1)

bcc distrib. by RIV:

L. J. Callan DRP Director

Branch Chief (DRP/B) Project Engineer (DRP/B) Branch Chief (DRP/TSS)

Resident Inspector (2)

DRS-PSB MIS System RIV File

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

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To receive copy of document, indicate in box: "C" = Copy without enclosures "E" = Copy with enclosures "N" = No copy

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

bcc to DMB (IEO1)

bcc distrib. by RIV:

L. J. Callan DRP Director Branch Chief (DRP/B) Project Engineer (DRP/B) Branch Chief (DRP/TSS) Resident Inspector (2) DRS-PSB MIS System

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

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