



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV

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ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-8064

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

SUBJECT: CHANGES TO THE SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT EMERGENCY PLAN

We have reviewed your letter dated January 15, 1996, and the enclosed changes to the South Texas Project Emergency Plan, Revision 17. The revision was submitted pursuant to 10 CFR 50.54(q) and incorporated the changes listed in the enclosure to this letter.

Based on our review, we determined that some of the changes did not clearly communicate the intent of the change and, in some cases, appeared to reflect reductions in your emergency response program. We also determined that an excessive amount of detail was removed from the plan such that the overall completeness of the plan was affected. The results of our review were discussed with Messrs. F. Puleo and T. Mayberry on March 27 and 28, 1996. Your staff agreed with the results of our review and stated that it was not their intention to reduce the program. In response, your staff offered to add the following information to a future emergency plan revision:

- Include a general description of the responsibilities of the onshift emergency personnel.
- Include a reference to the applicable station procedures that address the onsite communication systems.
- Clarify training requirements for relief emergency personnel.
- Include a general description of the assembly and accountability process.
- Add reference to "qualified" emergency operations facility directors.
- Clarify the use of the onsite laboratories.
- Indicate that there are personnel onsite who are trained to treat minor injuries.
- Specify who has the responsibility to maintain the offsite siren system.
- Reinstate the requirement to provide instructions for use/operation of the tone alert radios to members of the public who receive the radios.
- Reinstate reference to the hydrogen monitoring system.

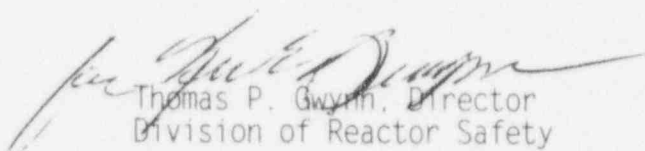
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- Reinststate the 10-mile emergency planning zone and 50-mile ingestion pathway zone maps.
- Reinststate the requirement to provide specialized emergency training on certain topics.
- Clarify the requirement to conduct an unannounced exercise.
- Clarify the training provided to emergency planners.
- Include a reference to the existence and location of the evacuation time estimate.

Based on statements made by your staff to make the above changes, we determined that the changes in Revision 17 were acceptable and did not degrade the effectiveness of your emergency planning at South Texas Project. However, the extensive additional information required to supplement this emergency plan change indicates a need to enhance your emergency plan review process.

Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Ms. Gail M. Good of my staff at (817) 860-8215.

Sincerely,


Thomas P. Gwynn, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

Enclosure: As stated

Dockets: 50-498
50-499

Licenses: NPF-76
NPF-80

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

bcc to DMB (IE35) \\\

bcc distrib. by RIV:

- L. J. Callan Resident Inspector
- DRP Director DRS-PSB
- Branch Chief (DRP/A) MIS System
- Project Engineer (DRP/A) RIV File
- Branch Chief (DRP/TSS) R. Bachmann, OGC (MS: 15-B-18)
- Leah Tremper (OC/LFDCB, MS: TWFN 9E10)
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E-Mail report to D. Nelson (DJN)
 E-Mail report to NRR Event Tracking System (IPAS)

bcc to DMB (IE35)

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ENCLOSURE

- (1) The list of support organizations with letters of agreement was updated (letters of agreement were removed).
- (2) The 10-mile emergency planning zone population figures were updated.
- (3) Several plant and emergency response organization titles were changed.
- (4) The text describing the responsibilities of the onshift emergency personnel was deleted.
- (5) Emergency operation facility and media information center staffing was changed from partial to full at the alert classification level with discretionary activation.
- (6) Emergency action levels were modified to be consistent with previously approved changes to the emergency classification procedure.
- (7) Reference to the automated telephone dialing system was deleted.
- (8) The number of offsite sirens was changed from 13 to 14, and the name of the backup emergency broadcast system radio station was changed.
- (9) The responsibility for distribution of the tone alert radios was transferred to the Manager, Emergency Response.
- (10) Reference to the offsite laboratory was deleted.
- (11) Text was modified in several sections to indicate that personnel may not need to be "qualified" to serve as members of the emergency response organization.
- (12) The description of the training program was modified to indicate that specialized training "may" be provided, rather than "shall" be provided.
- (13) Extensive amounts of detail were removed from the plan (applicable emergency plan implementing procedures were referenced in most cases).
- (14) Numerous editorial changes were made.