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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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Before Administrative Judges:

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Peter B. Bloch, Chairman
Dr. Kenneth A. McCollom
Dr. Walter H. Jordan

OFFICE OF NEUTRON PHYSICS
DOCKETING & SERVICE
BRANCH

In the Matter of

Docket Nos. 50-445
50-446

TEXAS UTILITIES ELECTRIC COMPANY, et al.

(Application for
Operating License)

(Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station,
Units 1 and 2)

October 26, 1984

MEMORANDUM

(Intent to Retain Academic Expert)

In "Applicants' Plan to Respond to Memorandum and Order (Quality Assurance for Design)," February 3, 1984, Texas Utilities Electric Company, et al. (Applicants) voluntarily stated, at page 4, that they

intend to retain the services of an expert from the academic community who will be asked to review the basic engineering principles to be addressed in the Plan and to provide testimony to the Board.

Compliance with this portion of the plan could help to persuade the Board about whether or not Applicants' initial engineering judgments were sound.¹ Since we consider the soundness of design and quality

¹ These issues are raised in "CASE's Second Motion for Summary Disposition Regarding Applicants' Plan and Supplement to Applicants' Plan to Respond to Memorandum and Order (Quality Assurance for Design)," October 22, 1984. Although we do not think that summary disposition is the correct remedy for a failure to implement this part of the Plan, we did consider an independent academic view to be an important source of reassurance about Comanche Peak's design--an issue we are not sure is being fully explored by the Staff's Task Force and that may not be adequately addressed in Applicant's existing filings for Summary Disposition.

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assurance for design to be important issues in addition to the soundness of the plant, we request a report on what Applicants have done about retaining the services of an academic expert.

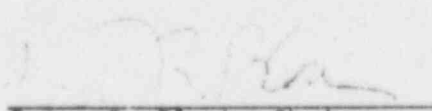
O R D E R

For all the foregoing reasons and based on consideration of the entire record in this matter, it is this 26th day of October 1984

ORDERED:

That Texas Utilities Electric Company, et al. shall respond to the accompanying memorandum by November 9, 1984.

FOR THE
ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD


Peter B. Bloch, Chairman
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

Bethesda, Maryland