



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20565-0001

April 16, 1996

50-498/499

Arthur Kenny, Esq.  
Licensing Administrator  
Electric Power Research Institute  
3412 Hillview Ave  
P. O. Box 10412  
Palo Alto, CA 94303

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION OF BULLETIN 88-08, "THERMAL STRESSES IN PIPING CONNECTED TO REACTOR COOLANT SYSTEMS," SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT, UNITS 1 AND 2 (STP) (TAC NOS. M93822 AND M93823)

Dear Mr. Kenny:

On February 23, 1996, the NRC staff provided a letter and Safety Evaluation (SE) to Houston Lighting and Power Company (the licensee), Westinghouse, and EPRI on the above subject. Since the staff had reviewed several proprietary documents prior to writing the SE, two from Westinghouse (WCAP-12598 and Supplement 1) and one from EPRI (TR-103581), and although the staff's view was that the February 23, 1996, SE did not contain any proprietary information, the staff thought it prudent to delay placing the SE in the public document room for a period of thirty (30) days from February 23, 1996, to allow the licensee, Westinghouse, and EPRI the opportunity to comment on the proprietary aspects only, if any.

The February 23, 1996, letter was addressed and mailed to the licensee, and copies of the letter were mailed to Westinghouse and EPRI. The staff had intended that all parties (licensee, Westinghouse, and EPRI) would respond either by a combined response through the licensee, or separately, and that this approach would save staff resources by not having to write three separate letters.

The licensee responded to the February 23, 1996, letter on March 20, 1996, and provided comments on the proprietary aspects of the SE. However, the March 20, 1996, letter says that "After review and discussions with Westinghouse (W) and the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) the principle providers of proprietary information from which the conclusion in the safety evaluation were based, STP believes the wording to section 2.0 Evaluation, item 6 and 8 should be changed." The letter also provided the licensee's specific recommended changes.

This response, although appropriate from the licensee's viewpoint, did not provide or mention the views of Westinghouse or EPRI. Therefore, by this letter, which is being mailed and addressed specifically to Westinghouse and EPRI, the NRC staff is also requesting that Westinghouse and EPRI respond to the staff's February 23, 1996, letter. The staff will delay placing the February 23, 1996, letter and SE in the public document room for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of this letter to provide you with the opportunity to comment on the proprietary aspects only. If you believe that

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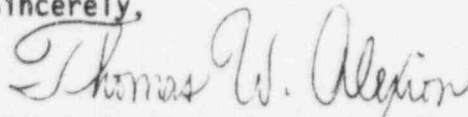
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any information in the enclosure is proprietary, please identify such information line-by-line and define the basis to the criteria of 10 CFR 2.790.

Please address your response to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Document Control Desk, Washington, DC 20555, Attention: Thomas W. Alexion, South Texas Project Manager. If you have any questions, I can be reached on 301-415-1326.

Sincerely,



Thomas W. Alexion, Project Manager  
Project Directorate IV-1  
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-498 and 50-499

Enclosure: February 23, 1996, letter  
from NRC to HL&P (currently being  
withheld from public disclosure)

Arthur Kenny, Esq.

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Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Thomas W. Alexion, Project Manager  
Project Directorate IV-1  
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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