February 13, 1980

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-80-07

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSISLE safety or public interest significance. The information presented is as initially received without verification or evaluation and is basically all that is known by LE staff on this date.

FACILITY: Houston Lighting and Power Company (HLSP)

South Texas Project, Unit 2

DN 50-499

SUBJECT: CONTADDMENT LINER BULGE

The South Texas Project (STP) Resident Reactor Inspector (RRI) was informed that a section of the Unit No. 2 Reactor Containment Building steel liner was inadvertently bulged while making a volumetric determination of a void using water under pressure. A subsequent follow up by the RRI revealed that the bulged section has an area of 100 ft at an elevation between 13' and 23' and centered at an azimuth of 245°. The maximum deformation of the bulge appears to be approximately 5 inches.

Media interest is expected due to the high media interest in STP; however, no press release was made or planned by the licensee or NRC.

The site construction progress of Unit No. 2 is currently 11%. There is no SNM on site.

Region IV, Arlington, Teras, received notification of this occurrence by telephone from the STP RRI at 2:30 p.m. on February 7, 1980.

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