

The Light company

Houston Lighting & Power

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March 9, 1988
ST-HL-AE-2540
File No.: G25

Regional Administrator, Region IV
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
611 Ryan Plaza Drive Suite 1000
Arlington, TX 76011

South Texas Project Electric Generating Station
Unit 1
Docket No. STN 50-498
Auxiliary Feedwater Turbine Driven Pump
Operability Considerations

On February 21, 1988 the South Texas Project Electric Generating Station Unit 1 initiated testing to verify operability of the turbine driven auxiliary feedwater pump after entry into Mode 3 in accordance with Technical Specification Surveillance Requirement 4.7.1.2.a.2. During performance of the test the turbine tripped on overspeed and the pump was declared inoperable.

Troubleshooting and evaluation by station and vendor personnel concluded that the probable cause of the turbine overspeed trip was excessive buildup of condensate in the steam supply line. A satisfactory operability test (cold start) was performed on February 24, 1988. A second satisfactory operability test (cold start) was performed on February 25, 1988, approximately 18 hours after the previous test. The pump was declared operable on February 25, 1988 after the second test.

Evaluation of the operating conditions related to this occurrence are continuing. Operating procedures are being evaluated for potential enhancement to preclude reoccurrence.

Short term actions will include increasing the performance frequency of the operability test. The period between operability tests will be reduced, initially starting with a period of about one day. The period will be incrementally doubled until the period between tests is about fifteen days. The test will then be performed on a twice a month frequency for two months. A determination will then be made to revert to the normal once-a-month frequency.

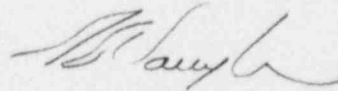
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Houston Lighting & Power Company

ST-HL-AE-2540
File No.: G25
Page 2

If you should have any questions on this matter, please contact
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