

South Texas Project Electric Generating Station P.O. Box 289 Wadsworth, Texas 77483

September 30, 1998

NOC-AE-000302 File No.: G20.02.02

G21.02.02

10CFR50.59 STI: 30715871

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory CommissionAttention: Document Control DeskWashington, DC 20555

South Texas Project
Units 1 and 2
Docket Nos. STN 50-498, STN 50-499
Change to Technical Specification Bases

The South Texas Project Technical Specification Bases has been changed pursuant to 10CFR50.59. The Bases for Section 3/4.9.10 and 3/4.9.11 discusses why 23 feet of water is required in the refueling cavity during irradiated fuel movement, and in the spent fuel pool with irradiated fuel stored within. The section clearly presents that 23 feet of water ensures that 99% of the iodine released in a fuel handling accident will remain in the water. Further stating what percentage of iodine is in the fuel-cladding gap has no impact on the basis for the specification. The amount of iodine present in the gap is captured in the accident analysis source term, and the function of the water to reduce the iodine released from the fuel-cladding gap by 99% is unaffected by the percentage of iodine present in the gap. Therefore, this change removes the 10% value for clad gap iodine isotopics. Attached is a copy of the revised Technical Specification Bases page.

If there are any questions, please contact A. W. Harrison at (512) 972-7198 or me at (512) 972-8686.

Director

Director

Fuels & Analysis

MKJ/

Attachment. Revised Technical Specification Bases (1 page)

981\060289 980930 PDR ADOCK 05000498 PDR A001

cc:

Ellis W. Merschoff Regional Administrator, Region IV U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission 611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 400 Arlington, TX 76011-8064

Thomas W. Alexion Project Manager, Mail Code 13H3 U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555-0001

Cornelius F. O'Keefe Senior Resident Inspector U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission P. O. Box 910 Bay City, TX 77404-0910

J. R. Newman, Esquire Morgan, Lewis & Bockius 1800 M Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20036-5869

M. T. Hardt/W. C. Gunst City Public Service P. O. Box 1771 San Antonio, TX 78296

J. C. Lanier/A. RamirezCity of Austin Electric Utility Department721 Barton Springs RoadAustin, TX 78704

Jon C. Wood Matthews & Branscomb One Alamo Center 106 S. St. Mary's Street, Suite 700 San Antonio, TX 78205-3692

Institute of Nuclear Power Operations Records Center 700 Galleria Parkway Atlanta, GA 30339-5957

Richard A. Ratliff Bureau of Radiation Control Texas Department of Health 1100 West 49th Street Austin, TX 78756-3189

D. G. Tees/R. L. Balcom Houston Lighting & Power Co. P. O. Box 1700 Houston, TX 77251

Central Power and Light Company Attn: G. E. Vaughn/C. A. Johnson P. O. Box 289, Mail Code: N5012 Wadsworth, TX 77483

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory CommissionAttention: Document Control DeskWashington, DC 20555-0001