

Mr. William T. Cottle
 President and Chief Executive Officer
 STP Nuclear Operating Company
 South Texas Project Electric
 Generating Station
 P. O. Box 289
 Wadsworth, TX 77483

October 15, 1998

SUBJECT: 10 CFR PART 50, APPENDIX R, DEVIATION REQUEST FOR FIRE AREA 07,
 SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT, UNITS 1 AND 2 (STP) (TAC NOS. M92177 AND
 M92178)

Dear Mr. Cottle:

By letter dated September 14, 1995 (superseding a letter dated April 13, 1995), supplemented by letters dated November 6, 1996, May 22, and August 4, 1997, Houston Lighting and Power submitted a request for deviation from its approved fire protection program as it incorporates Section III.G.2.c of Appendix R to 10 CFR Part 50 for fire area 07 to the extent that it specifies that an automatic fire suppression system be provided in the area. The request has been adopted by STP Nuclear Operating Company. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has reviewed the request and has concluded that the change to the approved fire protection program does not adversely affect the ability to achieve and maintain safe shutdown in the event of a fire and, therefore, require prior approval of the Commission under Paragraph 2.E of the licenses. Our safety evaluation is enclosed.

Sincerely,
ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:
 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: As stated

cc w/encl: See next page

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NAME	TAlexion/vw	CHawes	SHom	SWest	JHannon
DATE	10/15/98 - also Dec 2 comment after SPB	10/15/98	10/05/98	10/05/98	10/15/98
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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

October 15, 1998

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas W. Alexion".

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: As stated

cc w/encl: See next page

Mr. William T. Cott's
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cc:

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