



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

October 25, 1988

Docket No. 50-499

Mr. J. H. Goldberg  
Group Vice-President, Nuclear  
Houston Lighting & Power Company  
P. O. Box 1700  
Houston, Texas 77001

Dear Mr. Goldberg:

SUBJECT: INCREASE IN THE SPENT FUEL POOL CAPACITY THROUGH THE  
USE OF HIGH DENSITY STORAGE RACKS, SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT,  
UNIT 2 (TAC NO. 69374)

By letter dated October 5, 1988, we approved the Houston Lighting & Power Company request to increase the capacity of the spent fuel pool through the use of high density storage racks. The letter also transmitted the staff's Safety Evaluation (SE).

Please make the following changes to your copy of the safety evaluation:

- ° Cover letter, paragraph 2 - Change "If you are unable to complete the installation of the new racks prior to storing spent fuel in the pool-- " to read "If you change your plans and store spent fuel in the pool before completing the installation of the new racks---"
- ° SE page 2, paragraph 2 - Change "169" to "196"
- ° SE page 2, paragraph 4 line 7 - after the sentence that ends "---between adjacent walls." add "To provide space for the Boraflex strips between the ce'ls, a double row of matching flat round raised areas are stamped into the side walls of each cell. The cells are welded together at the raised areas to hold the Boraflex in place."
- ° SE page 4, Section 2.1.3, paragraph 2 - Change "Figure 5.6-1" to "Figure 5".
- ° SE page 6, line 5 - Change "physically" to "mechanically". Delete "or permanently glued onto".
- ° SE page 8, line 3 - Change "physically" to "mechanically". Delete "or permanently glued onto".
- ° SE page 9, Section 4.1, paragraph 2, line 3 - Change "post" to "pool".

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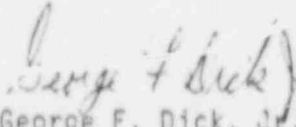
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- Page 10, line 3, change "instructive" to in-structure.
- SE page 10, line 9, Delete "or".
- SE page 10, paragraph 4, line 4 - Change "WF" to "NF".
- The following paragraph should be included in Section 4.2 as the next to last paragraph:

"The staff was concerned that after a seismic event, the racks could move, creating gaps between the racks different from the one inch initial spacing. In such a situation the configuration of the racks may not be bounded by the seismic analysis. In response, HL&P committed to modify the plant procedures to include a requirement to perform a walkdown of the spent fuel pool to check the rack configuration after a seismic event (i.e., Operating Basis Earthquake or greater)."

- SE page 14, lines 6 and 7 - Change "pgm" to "gpm".
- SE page 19, line 3 - Delete "decide to".
- SE page 19, line 4 - change "rods" to "racks".

Sincerely,

  
George F. Dick, Jr., Project Manager  
Project Directorate - IV  
Division of Reactor Projects - III,  
IV, V and Special Projects  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page

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/s/

George F. Dick, Jr., Project Manager  
 Project Directorate - IV  
 Division of Reactor Projects - III,  
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