

# The Light company

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May 8, 1986  
ST-HL-AE-1606  
File No.: G31

Mr. Vincent S. Noonan, Project Director  
PWR Project Directorate #5  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555

South Texas Project  
Units 1 and 2  
Docket Nos. STN 50-498, STN 50-499  
Preliminary Scoping Study Results

Dear Mr. Noonan:

The purpose of this letter is to provide additional information on Houston Lighting & Power Company's (HL&P) on-going risk management program for the South Texas Project (STP).

On June 28, 1985 HL&P submitted for your information a report entitled "South Texas Project - Preliminary Scoping Study Results." We provided additional information relative to the uncertainty in the results of the Preliminary Scoping Study (PSS) on August 19, 1985. By a letter dated October 2, 1985, HL&P submitted information on the effect on core damage frequency and the resulting dominant sequences associated with the most probable set of assumptions identified in the PSS when credit was taken for use of a positive displacement charging pump powered from an independent power source to provide seal cooling and use of silicon nitride reactor coolant pump seal material. Our October letter also contained a commitment to provide additional information on the effects on reliability of the heatup and response of electrical and electronic components in the electrical auxiliary building (EAB) following failures of EAB cooling and ventilation systems. Assumptions relative to these failures were the principal source of uncertainty in the PSS. In addition our commitment included providing additional information on the effect of other assumptions, including those relative to the timing and characteristics of possible reactor coolant pump seal failures, in the context of a revised uncertainty analysis. Enclosed for your information is a report entitled "Summary of Results - South Texas Project Preliminary Scoping Study Requantification" dated January 29, 1986 which describes the results of these additional analyses.

The enclosed report also includes the effect on core damage frequency of two additional valves to be installed in the chemical and volume control system letdown piping. These valves will provide the capability to isolate the letdown flow in the unlikely event of a station blackout. It is HL&P's intention to install these valves on Unit 1 no later than the return to power operation following the first refueling outage.

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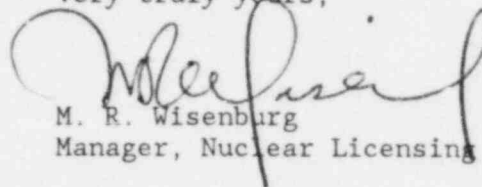
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HL&P's risk management program activities are being continued with the completion of a Level 1 probabilistic safety study scheduled for early 1989.

Based on these most recent results, the median value for the estimated core damage frequency for STP Unit 1 is less than the proposed NRC safety goal.

If you should have any questions relative to this matter, please get in touch with Mr. M. E. Powell at (713) 993-1328.

Very truly yours,



M. R. Wisenburg  
Manager, Nuclear Licensing

MRW/yd

Attachment: Summary of Results - South Texas Project  
Preliminary Scoping Study Requantification

cc:

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