

Mr. C. Lance Terry
 Senior Vice President
 & Principal Nuclear Officer
 TU Electric
 Attn: Regulatory Affairs Department
 P. O. Box 1002
 Glen Rose, TX 76043

July 23, 1999

SUBJECT: COMANCHE PEAK STEAM ELECTRIC STATION (CPSES), UNITS 1 AND 2 -
 EVALUATION OF RELIEF REQUESTS: USE OF 1998 EDITION OF
 SUBSECTIONS IWE AND IWL OF THE ASME CODE FOR CONTAINMENT
 INSPECTION (TAC NOS. MA2038 AND MA2039)

Dear Mr. Terry:

By letter dated February 20, 1998, and supplemented by responses to Requests for Additional Information (RAIs) in the letters dated March 26, June 8, and June 15, 1999, Texas Utilities Electric Company (the licensee), submitted Requests for Relief Nos. E-1 and L-1, seeking relief from the requirements of Subsections IWE and IWL of the 1992 Edition and 1992 Addenda of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (ASME Code), respectively. The relief requests propose to use the 1993 Edition of Subsections IWE and IWL of Section XI of the ASME Code for inspection of CPSES, Units 1 and 2, containments as an alternative to the 1992 Edition and Addenda of the Code which is incorporated by reference in Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Section 50.55a (10 CFR 50.55a) 10 CFR 50.55a.

The NRC staff, with assistance from the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL), has completed its review of the subject relief requests. The NRC staff's Safety Evaluation (SE) is enclosed herein; INEEL's Technical Evaluation Report is provided as an attachment to the SE.

Based on the review of the licensee's submittal and responses to the NRC staff's RAIs, the NRC staff finds that the use of the 1998 Edition of the Code, supplemented by the licensee's commitments in the responses to the staff's RAIs, will provide an acceptable level of quality and safety for ensuring the pressure integrity of the CPSES containments. Therefore, the staff concludes that the use of the proposed alternatives may be authorized for the first inspection interval of the containment pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i).

Sincerely,
 ORIGINAL SIGNED BY
 David H. Jaffe, Senior Project Manager, Section 1
 Project Directorate IV & Decommissioning
 Division of Licensing Project Management
 Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Docket Nos. 50-445 and 50-446
 Enclosure: Safety Evaluation
 cc w/encl: See next page
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Comanche Peak Steam Electric Plant

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