

March 30, 1989

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-89-22

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by the Region IV staff on this date.

FACILITY: Houston Lighting & Power Company  
South Texas Project, Unit 2  
Docket No. 50-499

Licensee Emergency Classification:  
☐ Notification of Unusual Event  
☐ Alert  
☐ Site Area Emergency  
☐ General Emergency  
☒ Not Applicable

SUBJECT: OPERATION ABOVE 5 PERCENT POWER

March 28, 1989, at approximately 6:13 p.m. (CST), South Texas Project (STP) Unit 2, increased reactor power above 5 percent for the first time. Earlier that day, after receiving approval from the Commission, NRR had issued a license to Houston Lighting & Power Company (HL&P) authorizing full power operation of STP, Unit 2. STP, Unit 2, received a fuel load/low power license on December 16, 1988, and achieved initial criticality on March 12, 1989. The unit will increase power in increments over the next several weeks, performing equipment and system tests at various power levels. HL&P anticipates placing STP, Unit 2, in commercial operation by early Summer 1989.

STP, Unit 1, was licensed for full power operation on March 22, 1988, and began commercial operation on August 25, 1988.

The licensee and the NRC have issued press releases.

The state of Texas has been informed.

This information has been confirmed with a licensee representative.

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