



South Texas Project Electric Generating Station P.O. Box 289 Wadsworth, Texas 77483

May 26, 1998
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File No.: G25
10CFR50.46
STI: 30625615

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

South Texas Project
Units 1 and 2
Docket Nos. STN 50-498; STN 50-499
Fuel Rod Internal Pressure Issue

- Reference:
- (1) Notification to Mr. Steve Sandin, NRC, from Mr. K. J. Taplett, STP Nuclear Operating Company, on October 29, 1997 (EVENT # 33177)
 - (2) Westinghouse Owner's Group/NRC Fuel Rod Internal Pressure Issue Meeting on November 6, 1997

Per reference (1), the South Texas Project made an "information only" notification to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Operations Center regarding the current Westinghouse NRC approved methodology for determination of fuel rod internal pressure and cladding corrosion. The notification stated that the methodology was found to be not as conservative as previously believed such that the calculation of 10CFR50.46 emergency core cooling system acceptance criteria (specifically the 17% oxidation limit) may be affected.

Regarding reference (2), Westinghouse has completed a plant-specific analysis verifying that the South Texas Project Unit 2 is in compliance with the 17% oxidation limit per 10CFR50.46. It is expected that the Westinghouse plant-specific analysis for the South Texas Project Unit 1 will be completed later this year prior to the estimated date when Unit 1 could possibly exceed the 12% oxidation screening criteria.

When completed, the results of the Unit 1 plant-specific analysis will be reported to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. If you should have any questions concerning this matter please contact either Mr. K. J. Taplett at (512) 972-8416 or me at (512) 972-7795.

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