



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

**REGION IV
1600 EAST LEMAR BOULEVARD
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4511**

March 01, 2023

G T Powell, President and CEO
STP Nuclear Operating Company
P.O. Box 289
Wadsworth, TX 77483

**SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT ELECTRIC
GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2 (REPORT 05000498/2022006 AND
05000499/2022006)**

Dear G T Powell:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has completed its end-of-cycle performance assessment of South Texas Project Electric Generating Station, Units 1 and 2, reviewing performance indicators, inspection results, and enforcement actions from January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2022. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of your facility during this period and its plans for future inspections at your facility. The NRC concluded that overall performance at your facility preserved public health and safety. The baseline inspection program was completed at your facility as defined in Inspection Manual Chapter 2515, "Light-Water Reactor Inspection Program - Operations Phase."

The NRC determined the performance at South Texas Project Electric Generating Station, Units 1 and 2 during the most recent quarter was within the Licensee Response Column, the highest performance category of the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Action Matrix, because all inspection findings had very low safety significance (i.e., Green), and all performance indicators were within the expected range (i.e., Green). Therefore, the NRC plans to conduct ROP baseline inspections at your facility.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through December 31, 2024. The NRC provides the inspection plan to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. The inspections listed during the last 12 months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised. The NRC will contact you as soon as possible to discuss changes to the inspection plan should circumstances warrant any changes. The Regional Administrator has approved the staff's plan to conduct inspection procedure 71003, "Post-Approval Site Inspection for License Renewal," at your facility as indicated in the enclosed inspection plan.

In response to the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE), the NRC adjusted inspection plans and schedules to safeguard the health and safety of both NRC and licensee staff while still effectively implementing the ROP. While the PHE continues, overall conditions throughout the country support performance of our inspection and oversight activities returning to normal onsite presence by our resident and region-based inspectors and completion of nominal

baseline inspection samples. We continue to monitor site-specific conditions and, as discussed in our November 2, 2021, memo, “Implementation of Inspection Programs Following Re-Entry from the Public Health Emergency for the Reactor Safety Program” (ML21295A302), it may be necessary to alter how and when we perform our inspection and oversight activities as we balance the importance of protecting the health and safety of our staff with the need to conduct effective oversight that supports the NRC’s critical safety mission.

For inspections requiring extensive coordination with offsite organizations, such as evaluated emergency preparedness exercises, NRC guidance and frequently asked questions for security and emergency preparedness can be found here: <https://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/covid-19/security-ep/>. Similarly, the NRC has developed guidance if force-on-force inspections cannot be completed as scheduled due to an emergency, such as the COVID-19 PHE. These changes help ensure the health and safety of both NRC and licensee staff while maintaining the NRC’s important safety and security mission during the COVID-19 PHE. The attached inspection plan is accurate on the date of issuance but remains subject to change based on approval of potential exemption requests or other changes needed due to changing conditions in the COVID-19 PHE. NRC staff will contact your appropriate regulatory affairs staff in order to coordinate inspection planning and scheduling.

On January 1, 2023, the engineering inspection frequency transitioned from a triennial (3-year) to a quadrennial (4-year) cycle. The new engineering inspection program will consist of a “Comprehensive Engineering Team Inspection (CETI)¹” and three “Focused Engineering Inspections (FEIs)” that will be performed in each quadrennial cycle. For the cycle beginning in 2023, the FEIs will be: “Fire Protection Team Inspection,” “Commercial Grade Dedication,” and “Age-Related Degradation.”

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* 2.390 of the NRC’s “Rules of Practice,” a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of NRC’s Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

¹ Aspects of the Design Basis Assurance Inspection (DBAI), Evaluations of Changes, Tests, & Experiments, and Heat Sink inspections are included in the new CETI inspection. Previously scheduled Evaluation of Changes, Tests, & Experiments and Heat Sink inspections have been cancelled and removed from inspection plan.

Please contact me at 817-200-1144 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,



Signed by Vossmar, Patricia
on 03/01/23

Patricia J. Vossmar, Chief
Projects Branch A
Division of Operating Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 05000498, 05000499
License Nos. NPF-76, NPF-80

Enclosure: Inspection Plan

cc w/ encl: Distribution via LISTSERV

ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT ELECTRIC GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2 (REPORT 05000498/2022006 AND 05000499/2022006)- DATED MARCH 01, 2023

DISTRIBUTION:

RLewis, ORA
 JMonninger, ORA
 RLantz, DORS
 MHay, DORS
 MFerdas, RIV/OEDO
 DCylkowski, RC
 VDricks, ORA
 LWilkins, OCA
 DGalvin, NRR
 AMoreno, RIV/OCA
 RAlexander, RSLO
 PVossmar, DORS
 HFreeman, DORS
 SLichvar, DORS
 GKolcum, DORS
 CStott, DORS
 LReyna, DORS
 R4-DORS-IPAT
 RFelts, DRO, NRR
 ABuford, DRO, NRR
 BPham, DORL, NRR
 GSuber, DORL, NRR (Regions II, III, & IV & LLPP)
 KBrock, DPR, NSIR
 SAtack, DSO, NSIR
 DORS Branch Chiefs
 DRSS Branch Chiefs
 DRSS Directors
 Senior Allegations Coordinator
 JDixon-Herrity, Plant Licensing Branch 4, DORL, NRR
 ROP Reports
 ROPassessment.Resource

DOCUMENT NAME: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT ELECTRIC GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2 (REPORT 05000498/2022006 AND 05000499/2022006)

ADAMS ACCESSION NUMBER: **ML23055B076**

SUNSI Review ADAMS: Non-Publicly Available Non-Sensitive Keyword:
 By: Yes No Publicly Available Sensitive NRC-002

OFFICE	SRI:DORS/A	BC:DORS/A		
NAME	HFreeman	PVossmar		
SIGNATURE	/RA/	/RA/		
DATE	02/21/23	03/01/23		

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Site Inspection Activity Plan

South Texas Project

01/01/2023 - 12/31/2024

Unit	Start	End	Activity	CAC	Title	Staff Count
Fire Protection Inspection - STP						3
1,2	1/30/2023	2/3/2023	IP 71111.21N.05	001646	Fire Protection Team Inspection (FPTI)	
1,2	2/13/2023	2/17/2023	IP 71111.21N.05	001646	Fire Protection Team Inspection (FPTI)	
Inservice Inspection 1RE24 - STP						1
1	3/20/2023	4/7/2023	IP 71111.08P	000702	Inservice Inspection Activities (PWR)	
RP 1,4,PI -						2
1,2	3/27/2023	3/31/2023	IP 71124.01	000725	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1,2	3/27/2023	3/31/2023	IP 71124.04	000728	Occupational Dose Assessment	
Security Access Authorization .01 and Access Control .02 + PIV + Plan Change .09 - STP						2
1,2	6/12/2023	6/16/2023	IP 71130.01	000733	Access Authorization	
1,2	6/12/2023	6/16/2023	IP 71130.02	000734	Access Control	
1,2	6/12/2023	6/16/2023	IP 71130.09	001656	Security Plan Changes	
1,2	6/12/2023	6/16/2023	IP 71151	001338	Performance Indicator Verification	
STP 2023 INITIAL EXAM						6
1,2	6/18/2023	6/24/2023	OV	000956	FB-OR-ONSITE VALIDATION OF INITIAL LICENSE EXAMINATION (OV)	
1,2	7/16/2023	7/22/2023	EXAD	000500	FB-OR-INITIAL LICENSE EXAM ADMINISTRATION (EXAD)	
EP 2023 Program Inspection - STP						1
1,2	7/24/2023	7/28/2023	IP 71114.02	000717	Alert and Notification System Testing	
1,2	7/24/2023	7/28/2023	IP 71114.03	000718	Emergency Response Organization Staffing and Augmentation System	
1,2	7/24/2023	7/28/2023	IP 71114.04	000719	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes	
1,2	7/24/2023	7/28/2023	IP 71114.05	000720	Maintenance of Emergency Preparedness	
1,2	7/24/2023	7/28/2023	IP 71151	001397	Performance Indicator Verification	
MC&A -						1
1,2	9/11/2023	9/15/2023	IP 71130.11	000742	Material Control and Accounting (MC&A)	
STP 2023 BRQ						3
1,2	10/22/2023	10/28/2023	IP 71111.11B	000704	Licensed Operator Requalification Program and Licensed Operator Performance	
Security FFD .08						1
1,2	11/13/2023	11/17/2023	IP 71130.08	000740	Fitness For Duty Program	
FORCE-ON-FORCE PLANNING AND EXERCISE WEEKS - STP						5
1,2	1/8/2024	1/12/2024	IP 71130.03	000735	Contingency Response - Force-On-Force Testing	
1,2	1/29/2024	2/2/2024	IP 71130.03	000735	Contingency Response - Force-On-Force Testing	
Commercial Grade Dedication Inspection - 21N - South Texas						3

Site Inspection Activity Plan

1,2	1/22/2024	1/26/2024	IP 71111.21N.03	001808	Commercial Grade Dedication	
1,2	2/5/2024	2/9/2024	IP 71111.21N.03	001808	Commercial Grade Dedication	
Cyber Security - STP						4
1,2	1/29/2024	2/2/2024	IP 71130.10	000741	Cybersecurity	
Inservice Inspection - STP (U2)						1
1	4/1/2024	4/12/2024	IP 71111.08P	000702	Inservice Inspection Activities (PWR)	
RP 1,3,PI						2
1,2	4/1/2024	4/5/2024	IP 71124.01	000725	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1,2	4/1/2024	4/5/2024	IP 71124.03	000727	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
Security Equipment (.04), Security Training (.07)						2
1,2	5/20/2024	5/24/2024	IP 71130.04	000736	Equipment Performance, Testing, and Maintenance	
1,2	5/20/2024	5/24/2024	IP 71130.07	000739	Security Training	
STP 2024 PI&R Inspection						4
1,2	6/10/2024	6/14/2024	IP 71152B	000747	Problem Identification and Resolution	
1,2	6/24/2024	6/28/2024	IP 71152B	000747	Problem Identification and Resolution	
EP Exercise & PI Inspection (2024) - STP						4
1,2	7/15/2024	7/19/2024	IP 71114.01	000716	Exercise Evaluation	
1,2	7/15/2024	7/19/2024	IP 71114.04	000719	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes	
1,2	7/15/2024	7/19/2024	IP 71151	001397	Performance Indicator Verification	
STP 2024 INITIAL EXAM						7
1,2	7/7/2024	7/13/2024	OV	000956	FB-OR-ONSITE VALIDATION OF INITIAL LICENSE EXAMINATION (OV)	
1,2	8/18/2024	8/31/2024	EXAD	000500	FB-OR-INITIAL LICENSE EXAM ADMINISTRATION (EXAD)	
RP 5,8						2
1,2	9/9/2024	9/13/2024	IP 71124.05	000729	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
1,2	9/9/2024	9/13/2024	IP 71124.08	000732	Radioactive Solid Waste Processing & Radioactive Material Handling, Storage, & Transportation	
RP 6,7						2
1,2	9/9/2024	9/13/2024	IP 71124.06	000730	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment	
1,2	9/9/2024	9/13/2024	IP 71124.07	000731	Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program	
Security Access Control (.02), Security Plan Changes (.09), Security PIV (71151)						1
1,2	9/16/2024	9/20/2024	IP 71130.02	000734	Access Control	
1,2	9/16/2024	9/20/2024	IP 71130.09	001656	Security Plan Changes	
1,2	9/16/2024	9/20/2024	IP 71151	001338	Performance Indicator Verification	
Inservice Inspection (U1)						1
1	10/21/2024	11/1/2024	IP 71111.08P	000702	Inservice Inspection Activities (PWR)	
License Renewal 71003 STP (Unit 1)/Phase 1)						2

Site Inspection Activity Plan

1 10/28/2024 11/1/2024 IP 71003 000687 Post-Approval Site Inspection for License Renewal
