



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION IV  
611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400  
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-8064

DEC 2 1999

William T. Cottle, President and  
Chief Executive Officer  
STP Nuclear Operating Company  
P.O. Box 289  
Wadsworth, Texas 77483

**SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-498/99-18; 50-499/99-18**

Dear Mr. Cottle:

This refers to the inspection conducted on September 19 through November 6, 1999, at the South Texas Project Electric Generating Station, Units 1 and 2, facility. The enclosed report presents the results of this inspection.

During the 7-week period covered by this inspection, your conduct of activities at the South Texas Project facility was generally characterized by safety-conscious operations, sound engineering and maintenance practices, and careful radiological work controls.

Based on the results of this inspection, the NRC has determined that two Severity Level IV violations of NRC requirements occurred. These violations are being treated as noncited violations (NCVs), consistent with Section VII.B.1.a of the Enforcement Policy. These NCVs are described in the subject inspection report. If you contest the violation or severity level of these NCVs, you should provide a response within 30 days of the date of this inspection report, with the basis for your denial, to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Document Control Desk, Washington, DC 20555-0001, with copies to the Regional Administrator, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region IV, 611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 400, Arlington, Texas 76011; the Director, Office of Enforcement, United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001; and the NRC Resident Inspector at the South Texas Project Electric Generating Station, Units 1 and 2, facility.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosure, and your response, if requested, will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR).

STP Nuclear Operating Company

-2-

Should you have any questions concerning this inspection, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,



Joseph I. Tapia, Chief  
Projects Branch A  
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos.: 50-498  
50-499  
License Nos.: NPF-76  
NPF-80

Enclosure:  
NRC Inspection Report No.  
50-498/99-18; 50-499/99-18

cc w/enclosure:  
J. J. Sheppard, Vice President  
Engineering & Technical Services  
STP Nuclear Operating Company  
P.O. Box 289  
Wadsworth, Texas 77483

S. M. Head, Supervisor, Licensing  
Quality & Licensing Department  
STP Nuclear Operating Company  
P.O. Box 289  
Wadsworth, Texas 77483

A. Ramirez/C. M. Canady  
City of Austin  
Electric Utility Department  
721 Barton Springs Road  
Austin, Texas 78704

M. T. Hardt/W. C. Gunst  
City Public Service Board  
P.O. Box 1771  
San Antonio, Texas 78296

STP Nuclear Operating Company

-3-

D. G. Tees/R. L. Balcom  
Houston Lighting & Power Company  
P.O. Box 1700  
Houston, Texas 77251

Jon C. Wood  
Matthews & Branscomb  
One Alamo Center  
106 S. St. Mary's Street, Suite 700  
San Antonio, Texas 78205-3692

Jack R. Newman, Esq.  
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius  
1800 M. Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20036-5869

G. E. Vaughn/C. A. Johnson  
Central Power & Light Company  
P.O. Box 289  
Mail Code: N5012  
Wadsworth, Texas 77483

INPO  
Records Center  
700 Galleria Parkway  
Atlanta, Georgia 30339-5957

Bureau of Radiation Control  
State of Texas  
1100 West 49th Street  
Austin, Texas 78756

Jim Calloway  
Public Utility Commission  
William B. Travis Building  
P.O. Box 13326  
1701 North Congress Avenue  
Austin, Texas 78701-3326

John L. Howard, Director  
Environmental and Natural Resources Policy  
Office of the Governor  
P.O. Box 12428  
Austin, Texas 78711-3189

**STP Nuclear Operating Company**

**-4-**

**Judge, Matagorda County  
Matagorda County Courthouse  
1700 Seventh Street  
Bay City, Texas 77414**

E-Mail report to D. Lange (DJL)  
 E-Mail report to NRR Event Tracking System (IPAS)  
 E-Mail report to Document Control Desk (DOCDESK)  
 E-Mail report to J. D. Wilcox (JDW)  
 E-Mail report to Frank Talbot (FXT)

bcc to DCD (IE01)

bcc distrib. by RIV:

Regional Administrator  
 DRP Director  
 DRS Director  
 Branch Chief (DRP/A)  
 Project Engineer (DRP/A)  
 Branch Chief (DRP/TSS)

Resident Inspector  
 RIV File  
 RITS Coordinator  
 R. Bachmann, OGC (MS: 15-B-18)

DOCUMENT NAME: R:\\_STP\ST918RP.NFO.wpd

To receive copy of document, indicate in box: "C" = Copy without enclosures "E" = Copy with enclosures "N" = No copy

RIV:SRI		RI		RI		C:DRP/A	
NFO'Keefe	<i>JK</i>	WCSifre	<i>WCS</i>	GLGuerra	<i>GL</i>	JITapia	<i>JIT</i>
11/2/99		11/2/99		11/2/99		11/2/99	

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

E-Mail report to D. Lange (DJL)  
 E-Mail report to NRR Event Tracking System (IPAS)  
 E-Mail report to Document Control Desk (DOCDESK)  
 E-Mail report to J. D. Wilcox (JDW)  
 E-Mail report to Frank Talbot (FXT)

bcc to DCD (IE01)

bcc distrib. by RIV:  
 Regional Administrator  
 DRP Director  
 DRS Director  
 Branch Chief (DRP/A)  
 Project Engineer (DRP/A)  
 Branch Chief (DRP/TSS)

Resident Inspector  
 RIV File  
 RITS Coordinator  
 R. Bachmann, OGC (MS: 15-B-18)

DOCUMENT NAME: R:\\_STP\ST918RP.NFO.wpd

To receive copy of document, indicate in box: "C" = Copy without enclosures "E" = Copy with enclosures "N" = No copy

RIV:SRI		RI		RI		C:DRP/A			
NFO'Keefe	<i>[Signature]</i>	WCSifre	<i>[Signature]</i>	GLGuerra	<i>[Signature]</i>	JITapia	<i>[Signature]</i>		
11/2/99	<i>[Signature]</i>	11/2/99	<i>[Signature]</i>	11/2/99	<i>[Signature]</i>	11/2/99	<i>[Signature]</i>		

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY