



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
612 EAST LAMAR BLVD, SUITE 400
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4125

September 2, 2008

Mr. Edward E. Halpin
Chief Nuclear Officer
STP Nuclear Operating Company
South Texas Project
P.O. Box 289
Wadsworth, TX 77483

**SUBJECT: MIDCYCLE PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND INSPECTION PLAN -
SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT ELECTRIC GENERATING STATION**

Dear Mr. Halpin:

On August 5, 2008 the NRC staff completed its performance review of the South Texas Project Electric Generating Station for the first half of the calendar year 2008 assessment cycle. Our technical staff reviewed performance indicators for the most recent quarter and inspection results over the previous twelve months. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our assessment of your safety performance during this period and our plans for future inspections at your facility.

This performance review and enclosed inspection plan do not include security information. A separate letter designated and marked as "Official Use Only - Security-Related Information" will include the security cornerstone review and resultant inspection plan.

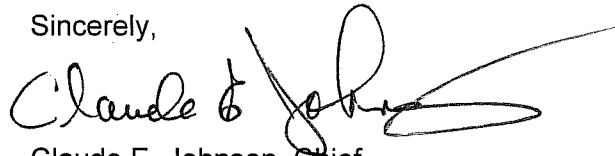
Plant performance for the most recent quarter was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC's Action Matrix, based on all inspection findings being classified as having very low safety significance (Green) and all performance indicators indicating performance at a level requiring no additional NRC oversight (Green). Therefore, we plan to conduct reactor oversight process baseline inspections at your facility.

The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections, less those related to physical protection scheduled through December 31, 2009. The inspection plan is provided to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues well in advance of inspector arrival onsite. Routine resident inspections are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature. The inspections in the last nine months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the end-of-cycle review.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

If circumstances arise which cause us to change the inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact me at 817-860-8148 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,



Claude E. Johnson, Chief
Reactor Projects Branch A
Division of Reactor Projects

Dockets: 50-498
50-499
Licenses: NPF-76
NPF-80

Enclosure: South Texas Project Inspection/ Activity Plan

cc w/Enclosure

D. W. Rencurrel, Site Vice President
STP Nuclear Operating Company
South Texas Project
P.O. Box 289
Wadsworth, TX 77483

C. M. Canady
City of Austin
Electric Utility Department
721 Barton Springs Road
Austin, TX 78704

Tim Powell, Vice President, Engineering
STP Nuclear Operating Company
South Texas Project
P.O. Box 289
Wadsworth, TX 77483

J. J. Nesrsta/R. K. Temple/
E. Alercon/Kevin Pollo
CPS Energy
P.O. Box 1771
San Antonio, TX 78296

S. M. Head, Manager, Licensing
STP Nuclear Operating Company
South Texas Project
P.O. Box 289
Wadsworth, TX 77483

Mr. Jon C. Wood
Cox, Smith, & Matthews
112 East Pecan, Suite 1800
San Antonio, TX 78205

C. T. Bowman, General Manager, Oversight
STP Nuclear Operating Company
South Texas Project
P.O. Box 289
Wadsworth, TX 77483

A. H. Gutterman, Esq.
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius
1111 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20004

Ms. Marilyn Kistler
Senior Staff Specialist, Licensing
STP Nuclear Operating Company
South Texas Project
P.O. Box 289
Wadsworth, TX 77483

Director, Division of Compliance & Inspection
Bureau of Radiation Control
Texas Department of State Health Services
1100 West 49th Street
Austin, TX 78756

Mr. Brian Almon
Public Utility Commission of Texas
P.O. Box 13326
Austin, TX 78711-3326

Environmental and Natural Resources
Policy Director
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, TX 78711-3189

Mr. Nate McDonald
County Judge for Matagorda County
1700 Seventh Street, Room 301
Bay City, TX 77414

Mr. Anthony P. Jones
Chief Boiler Inspector
Texas Department of Licensing
and Regulation, Boiler Division
E.O. Thompson State Office Building
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

Mr. Ken Coates, Plant General Manager
STP Nuclear Operating Company
South Texas Project
P.O. Box 289
Wadsworth, TX 77483

Ms. Susan M. Jablonski
Office of Permitting, Remediation
and Registration
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
MC-122
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087

Mr. Ted Enos
4200 South Hulen
Suite 422
Fort Worth, TX 76109

Thad Hill/Catherine Callaway/Jim von Suskil
NRG Energy, Inc.
1301 McKinney, Suite 2300
Houston, TX 77010

INPO
Records Center
700 Galleria Parkway
Atlanta, GA 30339-3064

Electronic distribution by RIV:

- Regional Administrator (Elmo.Collins@nrc.gov)
- DRP Director (Dwight.Chamberlain@nrc.gov)
- DRP Deputy Director (Anton.Vegel@nrc.gov)
- DRS Director (Roy.Caniano@nrc.gov)
- DRS Deputy Director (Troy.Pruett@nrc.gov)
- Senior Resident Inspector (John.Dixon@nrc.gov)
- Resident Inspector (Binesh.Tharakan@nrc.gov)
- Branch Chief, DRP/A (Claude.Johnson@nrc.gov)
- Senior Project Engineer, DRP/A (Thomas.Farnholtz@nrc.gov)
- Acting Senior Project Engineer, DRP/A (Gilbert.Guerra@nrc.gov)
- Public Affairs Officer (Victor.Dricks@nrc.gov)
- Team Leader, DRP/TSS (Chuck.Paulk@nrc.gov)
- RITS Coordinator (Marisa.Herrera@nrc.gov)
- RidsNrrDirslpab@nrc.gov
- Regional State Liaison Officer (Bill.Maier@nrc.gov)
- Regional Administrator Secretary (Lucy.Owen@nrc.gov)
- Branch Chief, DRS Engineering Branch1 (Russ.Bywater@nrc.gov)
- Branch Chief, DRS Engineering Branch 2 (Neil.OKeefe@nrc.gov)
- Branch Chief, DRS Operations Branch (Ryan.Lantz@nrc.gov)
- Branch Chief, DRS Plant Support Branch 1 (Michael.Shannon@nrc.gov)
- Branch Chief, DRS Plant Support Branch 2 (Greg.Werner@nrc.gov)
- Chief, TRPB, OEDO (Tamara.Bloomer@nrc.gov)
- Director, DORL, NRR (Joseph.Glitter@nrc.gov)
- Chief, OLB IV, DORL, NRR (Thomas.Hiltz@nrc.gov)
- NRR Project Manager (Mohan.Thadani@nrc.gov)
- OEDO RIV Coordinator (Mark.Cox@nrc.gov)
- INPO (mortensengk@INPO.org)

SUNSI Review Completed: CR ADAMS: Yes No Initials: CR
 Publicly Available Non-Publicly Available Sensitive Non-Sensitive

R: REACTORS\EOC and Midcycle\Midcyle Assessment Letters\2008\STP.doc ML

C:SPE:DRP/A	C:DRP/A	D:DRS	D:DRP	C:DRP/A signature
GLGuerra	CEJohnson	RJCaniano	DDChamberlain	CEJohnson
/RA/	<u>CR</u>	<u>CR</u>	<u>CR</u>	<u>CR</u>
8/12/08	8/14/08	8/21/08	8/21/08	8/21/08

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY T=Telephone E=E-mail F=Fax

Unit Number	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site	Planned Dates Start	Planned Dates End	Inspection Type
1	RP-ORS3 - OCCUPATIONAL RADIATION SAFETY - ALARA		1			
	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		12/08/2008	12/12/2008	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		12/08/2008	12/12/2008	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		12/08/2008	12/12/2008	Baseline Inspections
	EB1-17 - 50.59 & MODS		2			
1	IP 7111117	Evaluations of Changes, Tests, or Experiments and Permanent Plant Modifications		03/09/2009	03/20/2009	Baseline Inspections
	RP-ORS4 - OCCUPATIONAL RADIATION SAFETY - ALARA		1			
1	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		04/06/2009	04/10/2009	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		04/06/2009	04/10/2009	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		04/06/2009	04/10/2009	Baseline Inspections
	EB2-07T - TRIENNIAL HEAT SINK INSPECTION		1			
1	IP 7111107B	Heat Sink Performance		06/08/2009	06/12/2009	Baseline Inspections
	7111111B - BIENNIAL REQUAL INSPECTION		3			
1	IP 7111111B	Licensed Operator Requalification Program		08/03/2009	08/07/2009	Baseline Inspections
	EB1-08 - U1 INSERVICE INSPECTION		1			
1	IP 2515/172	Reactor Coolant System Dissimilar Metal Butt Welds		10/04/2009	11/08/2009	Generic Safety Inspecti
1	IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR		10/04/2009	11/08/2009	Baseline Inspections
	RP-ORS5 - OCCUPATIONAL RADIATION SAFETY - ACCESS		1			
1	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		10/05/2009	10/09/2009	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		10/05/2009	10/09/2009	Baseline Inspections
	EP1 - BIENNIAL EP PROGRAM INSPECTION		1			
1	IP 7111402	Alert and Notification System Testing		12/07/2009	12/11/2009	EP Baseline Inspection
1	IP 7111403	Emergency Response Organization Augmentation Testing		12/07/2009	12/11/2009	EP Baseline Inspection
1	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes		12/07/2009	12/11/2009	EP Baseline Inspection
1	IP 7111405	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies		12/07/2009	12/11/2009	EP Baseline Inspection
1	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		12/07/2009	12/11/2009	Baseline Inspections

This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.
 This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.

South Texas 2
 Inspection / Activity Plan
 09/01/2008 - 12/31/2009

Unit Number	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site	Planned Dates Start	Planned Dates End	Inspection Type
	EB1-08U2 - INSERVICE INSPECTION		2			
2	IP 2515/172	Reactor Coolant System Dissimilar Metal Butt Welds		10/13/2008	10/24/2008	Generic Safety Inspecti
2	IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR		10/13/2008	10/24/2008	Baseline Inspections
	RP-ORS3 - OCCUPATIONAL RADIATION SAFETY - ALARA		1			
2	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		12/08/2008	12/12/2008	Baseline Inspections
2	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		12/08/2008	12/12/2008	Baseline Inspections
2	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		12/08/2008	12/12/2008	Baseline Inspections
	EB1-17 - 50.59 & MODS		2			
2	IP 7111117	Evaluations of Changes, Tests, or Experiments and Permanent Plant Modifications		03/09/2009	03/20/2009	Baseline Inspections
	RP-ORS4 - OCCUPATIONAL RADIATION SAFETY - ALARA		1			
2	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		04/06/2009	04/10/2009	Baseline Inspections
2	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		04/06/2009	04/10/2009	Baseline Inspections
	EB2-07T - TRIENNIAL HEAT SINK INSPECTION		1			
2	IP 7111107B	Heat Sink Performance		06/08/2009	06/12/2009	Baseline Inspections
	7111111B - BIENNIAL REQUAL INSPECTION		3			
2	IP 7111111B	Licensed Operator Requalification Program		08/03/2009	08/07/2009	Baseline Inspections
	RP-ORS5 - OCCUPATIONAL RADIATION SAFETY - ACCESS		1			
2	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		10/05/2009	10/09/2009	Baseline Inspections
2	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		10/05/2009	10/09/2009	Baseline Inspections
2	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		10/05/2009	10/09/2009	Baseline Inspections
	EP1 - BIENNIAL EP PROGRAM INSPECTION		1			
2	IP 7111402	Alert and Notification System Testing		12/07/2009	12/11/2009	EP Baseline Inspection
2	IP 7111403	Emergency Response Organization Augmentation Testing		12/07/2009	12/11/2009	EP Baseline Inspection
2	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes		12/07/2009	12/11/2009	EP Baseline Inspection
2	IP 7111405	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies		12/07/2009	12/11/2009	EP Baseline Inspection
2	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		12/07/2009	12/11/2009	Baseline Inspections