



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

December 20, 2011
NOC-AE-11002770
10 CFR 54.54(f)
STI: 33158402

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
One White Flint North
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852-2738

South Texas Project
Units 1 and 2
Docket Nos. STN 50-498, STN 50-499
South Texas Project Response to Request for Additional Information Regarding
NRC Bulletin 2011-01, "Mitigating Strategies" (TAC Nos. ME6486 and ME 6487)

- References:
1. STPNOC letter dated July 7, 2011 from C. T. Bowman, STP Nuclear Operating Company to NRC Document Control Desk, "60-Day Response to NRC Bulletin 2011-01, "Mitigating Strategies," (NOC-AE-11002696) (ML11195A209)
 2. NRC letter dated November 28, 2011, "South Texas Project, Units 1 and 2 Request for Additional Information Regarding 60-day Response to NRC Bulletin 2011-01, "Mitigating Strategies" (TAC Nos. ME6486 and ME 6487)" (ML 113110149)


By Reference 1, STP Nuclear Operating Company (STPNOC) submitted a 60-Day Response to NRC Bulletin 2011-01, Mitigating Strategies. By Reference 2, the NRC staff requests additional information for review of the STP response to the bulletin. STPNOC's response to the request for additional information is provided in the attachment to this letter.

There are no regulatory commitments in this letter.

If you have questions regarding this letter please contact either Robyn Savage (Licensing contact) at 361-972-7438 or me at 361-972-7867.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on 12/20/2011
Date


D. W. Rencurrel
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rds

Attachment: STPNOC Response to Request for Additional Information

A146
NRC

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STPNOC Response to Requests for Additional Information

On May 11, 2011, the NRC issued Bulletin 2011-01 'Mitigating Strategies'. The bulletin required two sets of responses pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 50.54(f). STP Nuclear Operating Company (STPNOC) responded to the first set of questions for South Texas Project, Units 1 and 2 within 30-days by letter dated June 8, 2011 (ML 11165A095). STPNOC responded to the second set of questions by letter dated July 7, 2011 (ML 11195A209).

The NRC staff has reviewed the information provided in STPNOC's letters dated June 8 and July 7, 2011, and determined that additional information is needed for the NRC staff to complete its review of the licensee's 60-day response to the bulletin.

Many of the items described below represent current station practices. Individual items may be revised or adjusted in the future based on new or revised vendor recommendations, industry experience, etc., in accordance with established processes. Any changes involving commitments will be executed in accordance with NEI 99-04 Revision 0 "Commitment Management Guidelines".

NRC Request for Additional Information 1:

Please describe in detail the testing and inventory of communications equipment to ensure that it is available and functional when needed.

The bulletin requested that each licensee describe in detail the testing and control of equipment supporting the mitigating strategies to ensure that it will be available and functional when needed. Communications equipment needed to support the mitigating strategies was described in the safety evaluation documenting the NRC review of the licensee's response to Section B.5.b of the Interim Compensatory Measures Order (EA-02-026), and typically includes radios, satellite phones, spare batteries, and chargers.

STPNOC Response (1):

STPNOC's current practices regarding the testing and controls of the communications equipment that could be needed to implement the mitigating strategies are described in the table below. These controls ensure the communications equipment will be functional when needed.

| Equipment | Description of Test and/or Controls | Periodicity |
|--|--|---|
| Hand held radios and batteries assigned to Operations (including Fire Brigade) | Each non-licensed operator on a watch station has a radio. | Daily use Inoperable radios and batteries are taken out of service and repaired or replaced as needed. |

| Equipment | Description of Test and/or Controls | Periodicity |
|--|--|--|
| Additional batteries and battery chargers located in Unit 1 (U1) and Unit 2 (U2) at various operator work stations | A sufficient number of radios and batteries exist so that each non-licensed operator on a watch station has a radio. | Daily use Inoperable radios and batteries are taken out of service and repaired or replaced as needed. |
| Quintron Consoles located in the U1 and U2 Controls Rooms | Used on a daily basis for normal operations. | Daily use |
| Base station radios (back-up to Quintron consoles) in the U1 and U2 Control Rooms | Verify proper operation | Weekly |
| Hand held radios, push to talk (PTT) handsets, batteries, and battery chargers assigned to Security | Used on a daily basis for normal security operations. Radio/handset checked each shift | Daily use Radios and PTT handsets tested each shift. Inoperable radios and batteries are taken out of service and repaired/replaced as needed. |
| Motorola MCC7500 Elite Dispatch Consoles and Quintron Consoles in the Alarm Stations | The Motorola Console is used on a daily basis for normal security operations. The Quintron console is used as a back-up. | Tested each shift |
| Hand held radios assigned to the U1 and U2 Operations Support Centers | Verify radios operable at the U1 and U2 OSCs | Quarterly |
| Radio batteries in the U1 and U2 OSCs | Verify operability and/or replace as needed | Quarterly |
| Dialogics autodialing system | System operation tested weekly Quarterly verification of phone numbers of Emergency Response Organization members, fire brigade members, and security force members | Required to test system monthly, routinely tested weekly. Quarterly verification of individual's phone numbers |

| Equipment | Description of Test and/or Controls | Periodicity |
|--|---|--|
| Matagorda County has a Mutual Aid agreement for providing mobile command communications system (interoperability of radio equipment) | Letter of Agreement (LOA) with Matagorda County to Support STP in event of emergency | Annual verification of LOA |
| Station Quintron Consoles - via Main Quintron Cabinet. | Verify all station Quintron Consoles operational and capable of communicating with State and County by contacting the State and County via the Main Quintron Panel/Cabinet. | Monthly |
| Dedicated Emergency Notification System (ENS) circuits in U1 and U2 Control Rooms (CR), U1 and U2 Technical Support Centers (TSC), and Emergency Operations Facility (EOF) | Contact NRC via ENS line from each line | Monthly – all ENS circuits Daily check from U1 and U2 Control Rooms |
| Telephone extensions listed in Emergency Communications Directory for the U1 and U2 CRs, U1 and U2 TSCs, U1 and U2 OSCs, the Joint Information Center (JIC), and the EOF | Verify at least 25% of telephone extensions in each facility are functional | Quarterly |
| Satellite telephones installed in the U1 and U2 CRs, U1 and U2 TSCs, EOF, and Matagorda County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) | Verify operability of installed satellite telephones | Quarterly |
| Portable satellite telephones | Verify operability of all portable satellite telephones | Quarterly |
| Communications consoles, portable radios, and phones used by Offsite Field Teams | Verify operability of communications equipment used between EOF and STP and State of Texas field teams | Quarterly |
| Radio batteries in EOF | Verify operability and/or replace as needed | Quarterly |

NRC Request for Additional Information 2:

- 1. Please describe in detail how the licensee ensures that a vehicle is available to move the B.5.b portable pump and other B.5.b equipment to the appropriate place when needed.**

The bulletin requested that each licensee describe in detail the controls for ensuring equipment needed to execute the mitigating strategies will be available when needed. A vehicle is typically needed to implement the strategies since the portable pump and other equipment is stored away from target areas.

STPNOC Response (2)

A pickup truck is maintained within the Protected Area to move the B.5.b portable pump. No special testing is performed because the truck is used on a daily basis for routine operations. The truck is removed from the protected area for short periods of time for general maintenance. Other trucks are readily available either within the protected area or in the owner controlled area to transport this equipment. The vehicle is used by Operations and is parked away from target areas when not in use.