#### Deficiencies found in existing welding work and soil backfill

## Stricter quality controls promised

HOUSTON — Consultants Houston Lighting & Power Co. hired to evaluate the South Texas Nuclear Project verified government charges of weak quality control, but an HL&P report made public Wednesday promised a reorganization - including near doubling of its on-site

team — to eliminate deficiencies.

Consultants also told HL&P they found failures in soil backfill and welding work already completed. Evaluation of finished concrete work was incomplete. HL&P told the NRC every deficiency will be evaluated in consultation with contractor Brown & Root Inc., and the NRC. The utility promised faulty work would be torn out and

repaired.

The information was part of HL&P's response to an NRC threat to stop work at the 5-year-old project, still six years from completion, four years behind schedule. The NRC earlier fined HL&P \$100,000 for violating NRC standards. The \$2.7 billion plant, 10 miles southwest of Bay City is being built for utilities in Houston, San Antonio, Corpus Christi and Austin.

The NRC has scheduled a public meeting Aug. 19 in Bay City to discuss HL&P's response. Pending NRC

approval, safety-related concrete pouring, stopped since December, and safety-related welding, stopped since April, remain suspended — putting the project further behind schedule.

"These HL&P commitments, faithfully executed, provide assurance that the construction activities at STP are, and will be, conducted in accordance with applicable requirements, are consistent with the public health and safety and, therefore, work should not be stopped," - HL&P vice president George Oprea said.

The NRC ordered HL&P to consider several alternative quality control systems including the current system putting Brown & Root in charge, a system putting HL&P in charge and a third system turning quality control over to an outside consultant.

HL&P said in the report it had evaluated findings by consultant Bechtel Power Corp. and decided to retain the current system, putting Brown & Root in charge and HL&P in a supervisory capacity, although the companies outlined modifications touted as expanding HL&P's role

and improving Brown & Root accountable.

HL&P said it will double its on-site quality assurance team from 25 people to 45. Brown & Root said it replaced its on-site quality assurance manager and several middle managers and canceled a quality inspector orientation that the NRC said over-emphasized the importance of cost and

Both companies said they had moved an additional level of management to the site and hired consultants to help improve quality control.

Bechtel warned. "No amount of corrective action to the individual findings will have a lasting effect unless HL&P management adopts and promulgates a 'quality first' philosophy, with only the safety of the work force having a higher priority... The quality functions of HL&P and B&R must be strengthened."

HL&P reported it created a task force, including outside consultants, to make NRC-required inspection of completed safety-related welding, including structural and pipe welds. Although the study remained incomplete the team had found several failures in work already done.

HL&P said the task force reevaluated all weld X-rays and found 24 percent "unacceptable" because of improper documentation or flaws. The task force also ran tests on a random sample of 80 previously accepted welds and found 14 of 43 socket welds and seven of 35 pipe butt welds "unactifications".

None of 14 uranium fuel rod control drive welds were found unsatisfactory.

In another evaluation the welding task force said it found 6 of 79 randomly selected structural steel welds contained "certain irregularities" and speculated "weld acceptance criteria were not always properly applied by

The report said: "All rejectable indications flaws in welds will be repaired and reinspected for final acceptance unless the welds are imbedded in concrete. In these cases an engineering evaluation will be performed to determine the necessity of repair.

HL&P reported consultants ran NRC-required tests of soil compaction under the plant and found four substandard areas, none directly under a nuclear plant building. The consultant said none of the weak areas was significant enough to require correction.

HL&P also reported it created a task force, including outside consultants, to make NRC-required study of completed safety-related concrete pours and although the evaluation was not complete said preliminary findings were "no deficiencies requiring repair work have been identified."

**≪BROOKS** 

# LAUNDRY & DRY CLEANING 103 E. Holleman ollege Sta. 693-2121 Open 6:30 a.m. till 3702 S. College Bryan 846-2872 Open 24 hours

MSC Grove '80

Thursday July 31

#### DOC SAVAGE

Friday August 1 YOU ONLY LIVE TWICE

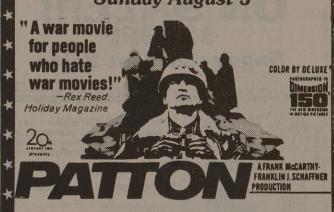
Midnight Movie



Saturday August 2



**Sunday August 3** 



**Monday August 4** 

### THE PRODUCERS

**Tuesday August 5** 

**12 ANGRY MEN** 

Wednesday August 6

HORSE FEATHERS

The movie begins at 8:45 p.m. Advance tickets may be bought\* Monday thru Friday 9 a.m. to 4\* p.m. at the MSC Box office.

**Admission Prices:** Student with ID 25¢ \$1.50 Non-student \$1.00 Child 7-12 yrs. old Child under 6 yrs. old FREE

## Abortion suit overturned

United Press International AUSTIN — The Texas Supreme Court rejected the latest attempt Wednesday by right to life groups to verturn or circumvent earlier court

ecisions allowing abortions during circuithe first trimester of pregnancy to seclude be a matter decided by the woman e first trimester of pregnancy to nd her physician. The court, without written comlecision that Eileen Brady, a nother of six affiliated with an anti-

bortion group, had no legal standng to file a class action suit on chalf of an unborn child seeking an njunction preventing a woman dentified as "Jane Doe" from hav-

ernom ing an abortion.

rmed Brady first filed the suit as temlership porary guardian of the unborn child,

Trow but later amended it to a next-ofty the friend action on behalf of all unborn ildren in Texas. The pregnant woman had called e Abortion Information Center, which was listed in the yellow pages

be sold the "birth control" listing, seeking Information about an abortion.
Within four days the unmarried If Com 19-year-old was served with papers s west notifying her of Brady's suit to prent her from having an abortion.

and of the telephone directory under

/IRBORNE

AGENT **AERO AIR FREIGHT** SERVICES WE DO MORE THAN

DELIVER YOUR PACKAGE OVERNIGHT WE GUARANTEE IT! 150 CITIES \$22.11 UP TO 2 LBS. FREIGHT PROBLEM SOLVERS
PH: 713-779-FAST
P.O. BOX 3862
BRYAN, TX. 77801

cash in with a dassified ad ...

A Houston trial court dismissed the case and the woman had the

"Jane Doe," said Wednesday she was delighted by the court decision but said the legal battle may not be

"They have been very persistent, so I wouldn't be surprised if they attempt some federal hearing on it,"

In her appeal to the state Su-preme Court, Brady contended the court should have permitted her "next-of-friend" suit on behalf of the unborn child "in a case like this where the mothers, who should be the natural protectors of their unborn children, become their mortal enemies, and such unborn children are left defenseless and friendless for the protection of the rights and vital interests.

"In Texas, one who is charged

**Per Donation** 

HOURS Mon.-Thurs. 8-4

Tues.-Wed.-Fri.

MAKE FREE

Help Supply Critically needed Plasma While You Earn Extra CASH

313 College Main in College Station

Relax or Study in Our

Comfortable Beds While You

Donate — Great Atmosphere:

A Houston trial court dismissed he case and the woman had the bortion.

Joann Doughtie, attorney for man beings, blameless before the court, were left doomed to die at the hands of their 'mothers' and their abortionists.

The trial court had ruled Brady did not have legal standing to file suit as next-of-friend of an unborn child because an earlier U.S. Supreme Court decision had determined unborn children are not

persons" under the law. The court also noted the Supreme Court decision in the earlier Texas case Roe vs. Wade made it clear abortions in the first trimester of pregnancy are a matter to be decided by a woman and her physi-

The Texas Supreme Court Wednesday upheld the lower court decisions in the Houston case without



Tiger

MSC DINNER THEATRE 1980 PRESENTS

WHO'S ON FIRST?

by JACK SHARKEY

BUDGET NIGHT Thursday, August 7 \$5.00 students

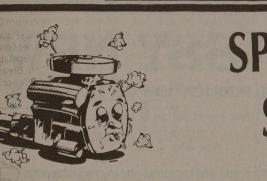
FRIDAY & SATURDAY August 8 & 9 \$8.00 students

\$6.00 non-students

\$9.00 non-students

Door Opens at 6:30pm Serving Line Closes at 7:30pm Show Starts at 8:00pm Tickets Available at the MSC Box Office 845-2916 Tickets must be purchased by noon of the day preceding the show you wish to attend

Alvarez Guitars reflect the touch, tone and quality craftsmanship that you would expect in a Attention has been given to every detail. Visit Keyboard Center and see for yourself!



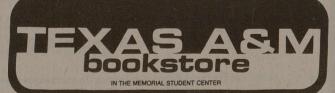
**SPECIAL** SALE

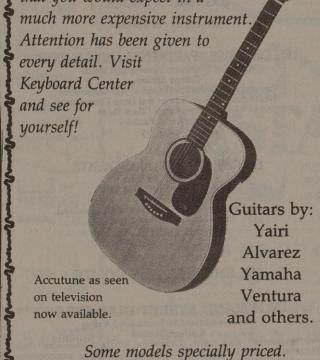
Call for more information

846-4611

MOTOR AUTO REPAIR **MANUALS** Reg. 1695

LIMITED QUANTITY





KEYDOARD

Layaway, Visa and Master-charge on ALVAREZ, YAIRI, YAMAHA and others. MANOR EAST MALL **OPEN TILL 6**