

July 21, 2014
EN 14-029

OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT
NOTIFICATION OF SIGNIFICANT ENFORCEMENT ACTION

Licensee: Florida Power and Light Company
Turkey Point Units 3 & 4
Docket Nos.: 50-25- and 50-251

Subject: ISSUANCE OF NOTICE OF ENFORCEMENT DISCRETION

This is to inform the Commission, pursuant to Section 2.3.10(a)(2) of the Enforcement Policy, that on July 20, 2014 NRC verbally granted a Notice of Enforcement Discretion (NOED) to Florida Power and Light Company (FPL) for a natural event (weather) regarding Turkey Point Units 3 and 4. This NOED grants discretion from enforcing the shutdown requirements of Technical Specification 3/4.7.4, Ultimate Heat Sink. FPL submitted a written request for discretion on July 21, 2014 and the NRC is preparing the formal response.

The request for discretion concerns the elevated temperature of water in the cooling canal system, which is the ultimate heat sink (UHS) for Turkey Point Units 3 and 4. The TS 3.7.4 action statement requires a dual unit shutdown of Turkey Point if the average UHS supply water temperature exceeds 100°F. FPL states in the request that the UHS temperature limits in conjunction with the Surveillance Requirements of TS 3/4.7.2, Component Cooling Water will ensure sufficient cooling capacity for normal facility cool down or to mitigate the effects of accident conditions.

FPL states that the primary cause of the rise in temperature in the cooling canal is the higher than normal concentration of algae, which causes an unusual amount of solar energy to be absorbed. Over the last two weeks, FPL has enacted a controlled chemical treatment that has reduced algae content and improved heat transfer rejection at night and reduced solar heating during the day. FPL calculates that adequate margin exists to accommodate UHS temperatures above TS limits and that supported safety systems would perform their intended functions up to a UHS temperature of 104°F. The requested enforcement discretion will end after either 1) 10 days, 2) if the UHS temperature exceeds 103°F, 3) if the ultimate heat sink temperature drops below 96°F for three consecutive days on a declining trend, 4) upon implementation of the requested license amendments, or 5) if the loss of Turkey Point Units 3 and 4 will not result in a NERC Emergency Alert Level 3 alert.

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