

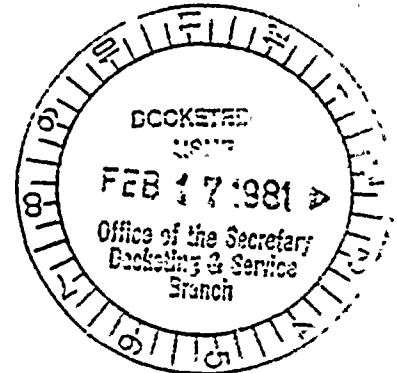
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February 13, 1981

PALM BEACH OFFICE
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Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555



Re: In the Matter of Florida Power & Light
Company (Turkey Point Nuclear Generating
Units Nos. 3 and 4) Docket Nos. 50-250,
50-251 (Proposed Amendments to Facility
Operating Licenses to Permit Steam
Generator Repair)

Dear Members of the Board:

With my letter to you of January 28, 1981, reporting upon a meeting among the parties to this proceeding, there was submitted for the consideration of the Board a proposed schedule, agreed to among the parties, with the request that it be adopted promptly as the schedule for these proceedings. The letter also requested a conference call in the event the Board would be disposed to modify the proposed schedule.

To date there has been no response from the Board to the letter of January 28, 1981. If the Board has some difficulty in concurring in the parties' proposal and is considering modification of the schedule which was submitted, we would like to call to the Board's attention the need for the adoption of a schedule which would permit the hearing to be completed in time for Florida Power & Light Company to begin the repairs in October of 1981.

When the Board issued the August 3, 1979 "Order Ruling on the Petition of Mark Oncavage," initiating this proceeding, it emphasized FPL's failure to indicate "when it would be necessary or economical to initiate the repair program. . ." (p. 25) and expressed the view "that the effective delay of granting the petition would amount to a few months at most" (p. 26, emphasis in original). The Board also noted that FPL had failed to demonstrate that such delay or disruption of its plans would cause it significant injury. (*ibid*) The Board's subsequent Order of September 25, 1979 adopted a

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prehearing schedule and provided for the hearing to commence January 8, 1980.

Since then the situation has changed markedly. In its Order Relative to Discovery and Scheduling of November 14, 1979, the Board cancelled the hearing date in order to permit completion of additional discovery requests filed by the intervenor. On March 4, 1980, the Commission issued its decision determining the need for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement for the Surry steam generator repairs. On March 6, 1980, the NRC Staff informed the Board and parties that an EIS would also be prepared in this proceeding, and that "the Staff will advise the Board and parties when a schedule for issuance of the impact statement has been established." On March 28, 1980, FPL submitted Revision 7 of the Steam Generator Repair Report (SGRR) to the NRC, which described changes and additions to the SGRR with respect to (1) lower assembly removal, (2) dose calculations, (3) steam generator disposal, and (4) return to service testing. Thereafter, by letter dated June 3, 1980, FPL advised the NRC staff as follows:

This letter is to inform you that Florida Power & Light Company has decided to commence the repair of the Turkey Point Unit 4 steam generators in October, 1981, beginning in August, 1981. The repair of the Unit 3 steam generators will follow the Unit 4 repairs and is now scheduled to commence in October, 1982.

Implementation of the decision to commence the steam generator repair in October, 1981 is contingent upon the timely issuance by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission of an operating license amendment authorizing the repair. Consequently, it is necessary that the proceedings before the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board relative to the issuance of the amendment be conducted on a schedule which will permit their completion in advance of that date.

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At this time the proceedings are being delayed pending the issuance of an Environmental Impact Statement. It would therefore be appreciated if the Staff would begin to prepare the Environmental Impact Statement promptly so that the proceedings can go forward.

Copies of the letter were served on the Board and the parties on June 23, 1980. By letter dated July 2, 1980, the NRC Staff initially indicated to the Board and the parties that it expected to issue the Draft Environmental Statement or or about September 1, 1980 and the Final Environmental Statement on or about December 1, 1980. By letters dated September 23, 1980 and November 18, 1980 the NRC Staff informed the Board and the parties that the issuance date for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement was rescheduled, first to October 31, 1980 and then to December 19, 1980. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement was issued December 19, 1980.

Based upon historic power demands upon the FPL system, October is the optimum month in which to initiate the repair of each unit. The FPL system has two peak load periods. The longer peak load occurs during the summer months through September. A shorter peak load period occurs during the winter. Beginning the repairs in October would make it possible to perform the repairs during that period when the peak demands upon the FPL system are shortest. In addition, beginning the repairs in October would make it possible to avoid much of the delays and inconveniences which can be presented by the hurricane season, which ordinarily occurs from June through September.

Since it is presently planned to return Turkey Point 4 to service July 25, 1982, each month of delay imposes a greater risk of unavailability of the plant during the summer months. A delay extending into a number of months would also force a delay in beginning the repairs on Unit 3 because the repairs on one unit cannot begin before those on the other are completed because the reduction of FPL's reserves would be unacceptable and would create the risk of an unacceptable reserve margin in the summer of 1983.

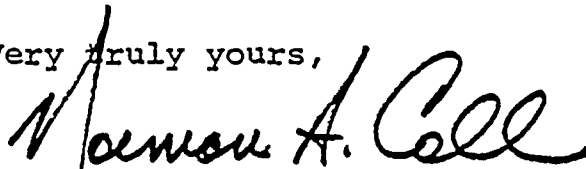
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In FPL's view, in order to allow sufficient time for the hearing, submission of proposed findings and issuance of an initial decision, June 1 represents the latest date on which a hearing can begin with a reasonable chance of obtaining a decision in time to enable FPL to initiate the repair of Unit 4 in October 1981.

In view of the foregoing, if the Board feels it necessary to modify the schedule because the schedules of one or more of the Board members makes it impossible to have the hearing begin on or before June 1, 1981, we respectfully request that the matter be referred to the Chairman of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel to explore the possibility of changes in the membership of the Board which will at least make it possible to adopt the schedule proposed by the parties.

Very truly yours,


NORMAN A. COLL

NAC/jm

cc: see attached certificate of service

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

Docket Nos. 50-250-SP
50-251-SP

IN THE MATTER OF)	
FLORIDA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY)	(Proposed Amendments to
(Turkey Point Nuclear Generating))	Facility Operating
Units Nos. 3 and 4)	License to Permit Steam
		Generator Repairs)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that copies of the foregoing
letter of February 13, 1981 was served on the following by
deposit in the United States mail, first class, properly
stamped and addressed, on the date shown below:

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Washington, D.C. 20555

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By


Norman A. Coll

February 13, 1981