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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

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May 20, 1981

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Mr. Carlton C. Kammerer, Director
 Office of Congressional Liaison
 Nuclear Regulatory Commission
 1717 H Street, NW
 Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Mr. Kammerer:

Enclosed, for your information, is a copy of a letter which has come to me from one of my constituents, Ms. Joette Lorion, Executive Director, Floridians United for Safe Energy, Inc., of Miami.

As you will note from the letter, Ms. Lorion is very much concerned about the fact that she has been unable to discover why Unit #3 of the Turkey Point Nuclear Plant in South Dade County recently broke down. I would appreciate your providing me with a complete report on this matter.

In addition, Ms. Lorion questions the plugging action by Florida Power and Light Company of Unit #4 in what appears to be an attempt to run this unit consecutively for ten months, which may lead to serious consequences. I would also appreciate, therefore, your providing me with a report on this plugging and a determination whether it follows NRC safety standards. If it does not follow NRC safety standards, I would appreciate your looking into this matter and advising me what actions may be required under the rules and regulations of the NRC.

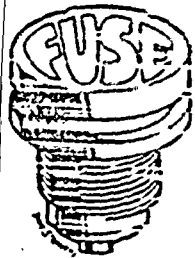
Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Dante B. Fascell
 DANTE B. FASCELL
 Member of Congress

DBF:RT
 Enclosure

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FLORIDIANS UNITED for SAFE ENERGY, INC.

7210 Red Road, Room 208, Miami, Fla. 33143 • Tel.: 305/661-3559

May 14, 1981

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Dante B. Fascell
Congress of the United States
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Dante Fascell,

I am writing out of concern over a serious problem that threatens both the safety and pocketbooks of the people living in your district. The problem involves Turkey Point Nuclear Units #3 and #4 located in South Dade.

Warren Haskins of Conchshell has informed me that you are very much aware of the legal motion filed by a group of homeowners last July that asked the NRC to shutdown Turkey Point Nuclear Unit #3 for its six month maintenance inspection and tube plugging. I have been told that you are aware of the fact that this nuclear unit continued to run for two months beyond the six month safety deadline until FPL was pressured into complying with NRC rules and regulations through media focus. Warren tells me that he has pointed out that this same nuclear unit #3 experienced a series of accidents with the feedwater system in December and is in fact, shutdown at this very instant because of an electrical incident that occurred April 25, 1981. The incident will force FPL to keep Unit #3 out of service for as long as four months.

I am not convinced that the most recent breakdown of Unit #3 is strictly the result of FPL's "bad luck." It must be stressed that expensive oil replacement costs amounting to \$800,000 per day will be passed on to the consumer through fuel adjustment. And the fact is that this expensive breakdown could have been caused by FPL's insistence in running their nuclear units to the point of fatigue. The extended operating period last July may or may not put tremendous stress on the other mechanical components of this unit. We know that FPL did not maintain this unit in a timely fashion, and it seems that this recent incident warrants investigation.

Despite questioning over the last few weeks, I have been unable to discover exactly what caused Unit #3's recent breakdown. I ask That you assist me in this matter. It seems you have caught the ear of the NRC staff.

The second point that I want to bring to your attention is the fact that FPL has plugged Unit #4 "conservatively" in what seems to be an attempt to run this unit for ten consecutive months. I am alarmed that FPL has not yet become aware of the gravity of operating their nuclear units with nearly 25% of their heat transfer area out of commission. Bob Pollard of the Union of Concerned Scientists in Washington has shown that if even a handful of these wasted tubes should burst it could result in a complete loss of the steam generators as an effective heat sink. Tube bursts, coupled with a main pipe break

is one of the most feared reactor accidents in plants with steam generator corrosion. This type of accident is termed a LOCA-or loss of coolant accident and could lead to a meltdown. Three Mile Island has shown us that Class 9 accidents are indeed possible and it seems that as the Turkey Point Units become more severely corroded, that they should come under greater surveillance rather than lesser.

FPL must be coerced into following NRC safety standards. (And it seems so must the NRC). Turkey Point Unit #4 is scheduled to be shutdown in June for their six month inspection. You are probably also aware that FUSE is supporting citizen intervener, Mark Oncavage in Hearings before the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board of the NRC in June. The eyes and ears of local & national press and scientists and attorneys around the country will be focused on this hearing. It would be extremely "untimely" and horrible publicity if FPL is granted this imprudent and unjustified ten month operating period and an accident took place during the trial.

I ask that you take major steps to protect the health, safety, and wallets of the people in your district by looking into both of the above matters. These two very serious and related safety issues must be addressed. I have long admired your candid and responsible attitude on issues that directly affect your constituents.

Thank you for hearing my concerns and I will be looking forward to your swift reply. Should you have any questions on these matters, please feel free to give me a call.

Sincerely,

Joette Lorion

Joette Lorion
Executive Director FUSE

