

CATEGORY 1

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ACCESSION NBR: 9804270208 DOC. DATE: 98/04/20 NOTARIZED: YES DOCKET #
 FACIL: 50-250 Turkey Point Plant, Unit 3, Florida Power and Light C 05000250
 50-251 Turkey Point Plant, Unit 4, Florida Power and Light C 05000251
 AUTH. NAME AUTHOR AFFILIATION
 HOVEY, R.J. Florida Power & Light Co.
 RECIP. NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
 Document Control Branch (Document Control Desk)

SUBJECT: Informs that submitted fuel assembly design feature changes
 planned as result of changing from Zircaloy-4 matl to ZIRLO
 will not affect core thermal hydraulic characteristics.

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L-98-084
10 CFR 50.36
10 CFR 50.90

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Washington D. C. 20555

Re: Turkey Point Units 3 and 4
Docket Nos. 50-250 and 50-251
Proposed License Amendments
Implementation of ZIRLO[™] Fuel Rod Cladding
Response to Request for Additional Information

By letter L-97-317, dated January 9, 1998, Florida Power and Light Company (FPL) requested that Appendix A of Facility Operating Licenses DPR-31 and DPR-41 be amended to modify Turkey Point Units 3 and 4 Technical Specifications Section 5.3.1, Design Features, and Section 6.9.1.7, Core Operating Limits Report (COLR), to implement the use of ZIRLO[™] fuel rod cladding.

As requested during telephone conversations with the NRC Staff, the following fuel design changes are planned for implementation in the Unit 3 Cycle 17 and Unit 4 Cycle 18 reloads:

1. A material change from Zircaloy-4 to ZIRLO[™] is planned for the fuel rod cladding, Rod Control Cluster Assembly guide thimbles, instrumentation tube, and all the fuel assembly grids except the top and bottom grids,
2. Fuel rod length increase of less than 1.0 inch (offsets lower growth rate of ZIRLO[™] as compared to Zircaloy-4),
3. IFBA rods Helium backfill pressure reduced from 200 psia to 100 psia (to increase margin to fuel rod pressure design limits),
4. Change in internal fuel rod spring from standard to variable pitch (to increase margin to fuel rod pressure design limits).

FPL has determined that the above listed fuel assembly design feature changes planned as a result of changing from Zircaloy-4 material to ZIRLO[™] will not affect the core thermal hydraulic characteristics.

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In accordance with 10 CFR 50.91 (b) (1), a copy of these proposed license amendments are being forwarded to the State Designee for the State of Florida.

Should there be any questions on this request, please contact us.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'R. J. Hovey', with a horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

R. J. Hovey
Vice President
Turkey Point Plant

OIH

cc: L. A. Reyes, Regional Administrator, Region II, USNRC
T. P. Johnson, Senior Resident Inspector, USNRC, Turkey
Point
W. A. Passetti, Florida Department of Health and
Rehabilitative Services


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STATE OF FLORIDA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF MIAMI-DADE)

R. J. Hovey being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

That he is Vice President, Turkey Point Plant, of Florida Power and Light Company, the Licensee herein;

That he has executed the foregoing document; that the statements made in this document are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information and belief, and that he is authorized to execute the document on behalf of said Licensee.



R. J. Hovey

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF MIAMI-DADE

Subscribed and sworn to before me this

20th day of April, 1998,

by R. J. Hovey is personally known to me.

Olga Hanek

Name of Notary Public - State of Florida



(Print, type or stamp ~~Commissioned Name of~~ Notary Public)



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