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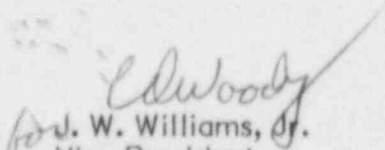
April 6, 1984  
L-84-93

Mr. James P. O'Reilly  
Regional Administrator, Region II  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
101 Marietta Street, Suite 2900  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Re: St. Lucie Units 1 & 2  
Docket Nos. 50-335 & 50-389  
Occurrence of Nonroutine Event

In accordance with Section 4.1 of the St. Lucie Unit 1 Environmental Protection Plan (Operating License DPR-67, Appendix B, Part II), and Section 5.4.2 of the St. Lucie Unit 2 Environmental Protection Plan (Operating License NPF-16, Appendix B), attached please find copies of the letters written to the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding actions taken by plant personnel in response to elevated water levels in the St. Lucie Plant discharge canal.

Very truly yours,

  
for J. W. Williams, Jr.  
Vice President  
Nuclear Energy

JWW/RJS/cab

Attachment

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February 17, 1984

Mr. Peter McGarry, P.E., Chief  
Florida/Mississippi Unit  
Industrial Operations Section  
Facilities Performance Branch  
Water Management Division  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region IV  
345 Courtland Street, N.E.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30365

Re: St. Lucie Plant Condenser Cooling Water Discharge

Dear Mr. McGarry:

On the afternoon of Friday, February 17, 1984, Florida Power and Light Company notified Charles Kaplan of EPA by telephone that the St. Lucie Plant was experiencing high discharge canal water levels while using the multiport diffuser under certain plant operating conditions. The problem was observed specifically at high tide levels and with four (4) circulating water pumps operating. Under these operating conditions, one circulating water pump has to be taken out of service to prevent discharge canal overflow and as a consequence unit load must be reduced.

Part III G. of the St. Lucie Plant NPDES Permit requires that the multiport diffuser be used during single unit operation except during "short term" operation. FPL has previously proposed a plan to EPA where "short term" is defined as seven (7) consecutive days. It now appears that the St. Lucie Plant will be in single unit operation and utilizing the adjacent Y- diffuser in place of the multiport diffuser for more than seven days. Mr. Kaplan indicated that FPL should notify EPA of this operating condition in writing. FPL views this cooling system condition as a bypass and/or an upset condition which is allowed under conditions in Part II of the plant's NPDES Permit.

At the present time the multiport diffuser discharge system is being inspected. As soon as information is available concerning a solution to the problem discussed here, FPL will provide such to EPA. Please note that Mr. Hamilton Owen, Power Plant Siting Administrator, Florida Department of Environmental Regulation was notified by telephone of this situation on this date.

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Barrow, Jr.  
Manager  
Environmental Permitting and Programs

WJBjr:ADB:ku

cc: Mr. Hamilton Owen



February 28, 1984

Mr. Peter McGarry, P.E. Chief  
Florida/Mississippi Unit  
Industrial Operations Section  
Facilities Performance Branch  
Water Management Division  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region IV  
345 Courtland Street, N.E.  
Atlanta, GA 30365

RE: ST. LUCIE PLANT CIRCULATING WATER SYSTEM

Dear Mr. McGarry:

The following is provided to update and/or correct the information provided in my February 17, 1984 letter to you. The St. Lucie Plant circulating water system multiport diffuser was returned to service at 1:00 p.m. on February 24, 1984 after being taken out of service at 7:00 a.m. on February 14, 1984. An inspection of the diffuser revealed nothing which should have significantly contributed to the high water levels in the discharge canal observed during operational testing of the circulating water system during the period October 7, 1983 through October 10, 1983. That particular test was run to verify circulating water system operability for two unit operation at full power by operating eight (8) circulating water pumps and monitoring intake and discharge canal levels. While conducting the test, the discharge canal level reached 13.2 feet (MLW) which appeared to be abnormally high. The discharge canal will begin to overflow by the spillway at a elevation of 15.5 feet (MLW). The test was conducted during a period of particulary high tides.

Florida Power & Light Company intends to conduct additional testing under operating conditions, and to obtain instrumentation to monitor tide levels at the site to collect additional data for further evaluation.

If you have any additional questions regarding this matter, please call Mr. Tom Grozan at 305/863-3645.

Sincerely,

W.J. Barrow, Jr.  
Manager  
Environmental Permitting & Programs

WJBjr:os