



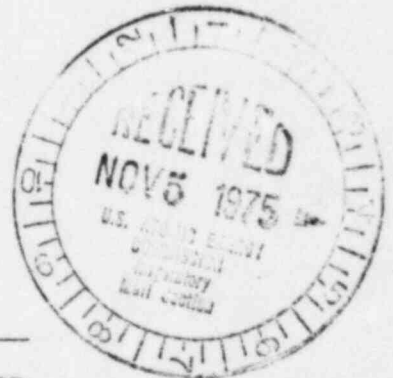
October 31, 1975

Mr. Norman C. Moseley, Director, Region II
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
230 Peachtree Street, N.W., Suite 818
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Mr. Moseley:

ABNORMAL OCCURRENCE 251-75-10

TURKEY POINT UNIT 4

DATE OF OCCURRENCE: OCTOBER 21, 1975UNPLANNED RELEASE OF RADIOACTIVE LIQUIDA. CONDITIONS PRIOR TO OCCURRENCE

The reactor was in steady state power operation at 100% rated power.

B. DESCRIPTION OF OCCURRENCE

The Waste Holdup Tank (WHT), which is shared by Units 3 and 4, was recently cleaned to remove sludge deposits. The cleaning process produced a sludge-water mixture which was pumped to several 55-gallon drums for temporary storage. Most of the sludge settled to the bottom of the drums but some of it remained suspended in the water. It was planned to return the water from each drum to the WHT via the appropriate floor drain in the Unit 4 spent fuel cask wash area. The remaining sludge was then to be treated as waste and eventually shipped off-site for disposal.

From about 4:00 AM to 7:00 AM on October 21, 1975, maintenance personnel pumped the water from twenty drums into the Unit 4 cask wash area floor drain which connects to a storm drain and discharges into an underground drywell south of the plant. The inadvertent use of the wrong floor drain resulted in an unplanned release of about 880 gallons of radioactive liquid to an underground area outside the plant's radiation controlled boundary.

C. DESIGNATION OF APPARENT CAUSE OF OCCURRENCE

Personnel error resulted in the pumping of radioactive liquid into the wrong floor drain. The floor drains in the Unit 4 spent fuel cask wash area are not labeled and there was uncertainty as to which drain connected to the WHT. The personnel involved did not make a positive identification of the WHT floor drain.

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HELPING BUILD FLORIDA

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D. ANALYSIS OF OCCURRENCE

Sludge and water samples were taken from some of the remaining full drums and subjected to an isotopic activity analysis. Dose rate measurements from the full drums were then compared with dose rate measurements from the twenty empty drums. The isotopic activity and dose rate data were used to estimate the activity of the water which had been pumped to the storm drain. Analytical results indicate that approximately 2.1 Curies of primarily Cobalt-58 and Cobalt-60 were released.

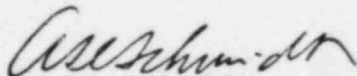
The drywell termination of the storm drain is located underground about 150 feet southeast of the new Radwaste Building. There are no potable water sources in this vicinity. The water table beneath the drywell is a salt water stratum and does not represent a source of potable water. In addition, natural filtration by the soil can be expected to remove much of the insoluble activity before it reaches the water table. The isolated location of the drywell which is surrounded by the closed canal system provides reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be adversely affected by this occurrence.

E. CORRECTIVE ACTION

The floor drains in the Unit 4 spent fuel cask wash area will be labeled to differentiate between the WHT and storm drains. The floor drains in the Unit 3 spent fuel cask wash area will also be labeled.

Plant personnel will be instructed to request guidance from knowledgeable personnel whenever any uncertainty arises regarding the handling of radioactive material. A copy of this report will be routed to the personnel involved for their instruction.

Very truly yours,



A. D. Schmidt
Vice President
Power Resources

MAS/jar

cc: Jack R. Newman, Esquire
Director, Office of Inspection and Enforcement (40)
Director, Office of Management Information and
Program Control (3)