

FLORIDA POWER &amp; LIGHT COMPANY

March 21, 1975



Mr. Edson G. Case, Acting Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Mr. Case:

ABNORMAL OCCURRENCE NO. 251-75-4  
OCCURRENCE DATE: MARCH 12, 1975  
TURKEY POINT UNIT NO. 4  
LATERAL RESTRAINTS FOR SPENT  
FUEL RACKS BROKEN

A. CONDITIONS PRIOR TO OCCURRENCE

Unit No. 4 was at steady-state power operation at 99% rated power. The Unit No. 4 spent fuel pool was drained and being cleaned in preparation for the first refueling.

B. DESCRIPTION OF OCCURRENCE

During the spent fuel pool cleaning on March 6, 1975, it was found that one of the 116 stainless steel seismic restraint springs (see Sketches No. 1 and 2) on the spent fuel racks had broken into two pieces and was lying on the pool floor. The remaining springs were all noted to be in place. However, a more careful examination of each of the remaining 115 springs was completed on March 12, 1975 and revealed that 5 additional springs were similarly broken, but were held in place by the nuts used to fasten the spring to the stud used for preloading the spring (see Sketch No. 1).

C. DESIGNATION OF APPARENT CAUSE OF OCCURRENCE

The investigation to date has not conclusively determined the cause of the broken springs. One of the broken springs has been sent to a laboratory for metallurgical analysis, but the results are not yet available.

D. ANALYSIS OF OCCURRENCE

The springs provide restraint for the spent fuel racks in the event of a seismic event. Inasmuch as there was no spent fuel in the Unit No. 4 spent fuel pool, the broken springs clearly presented no nuclear safety problem, and posed no potential danger to the public health and safety.

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E. CORRECTIVE ACTION

The broken springs will be replaced with new springs of the same functional design. A supplement to this report will be issued in the event that additional corrective action is required as a result of the continuing investigation.

F. FAILURE DATA

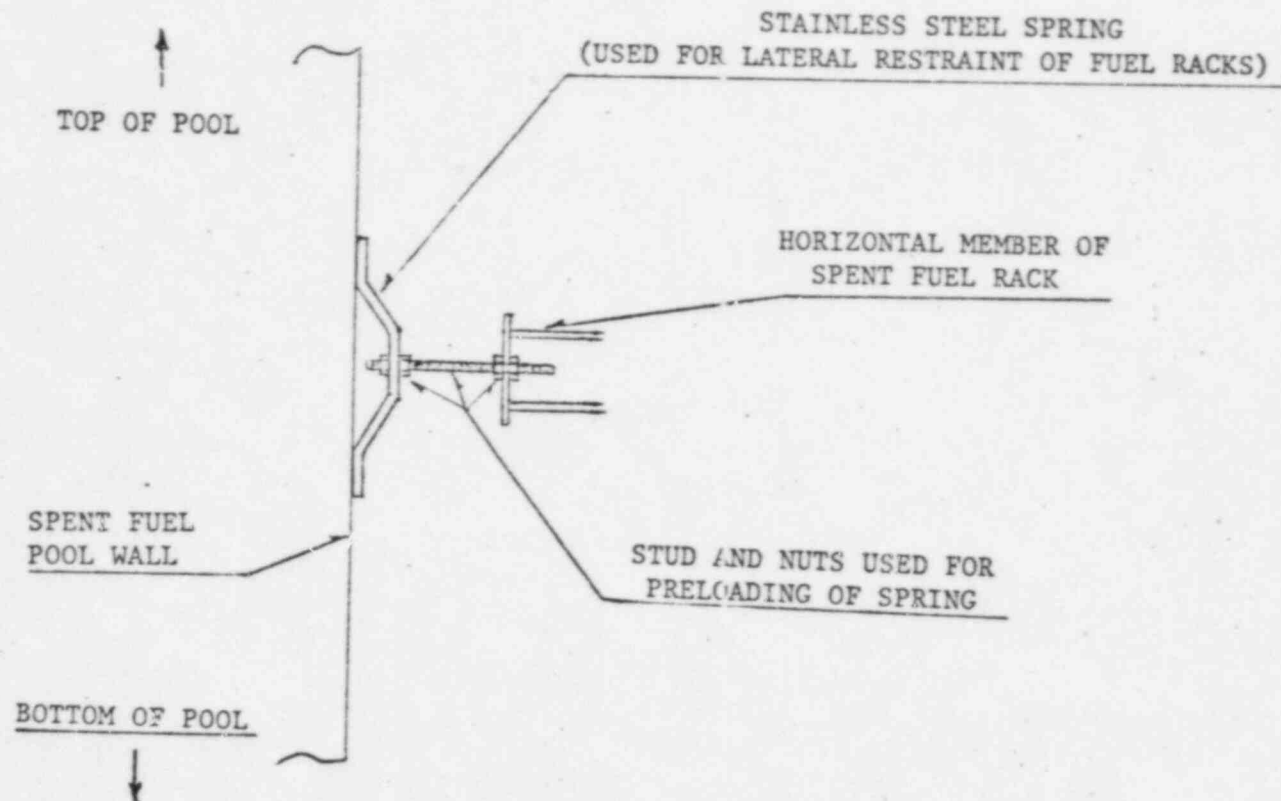
There has been one other instance of a broken spring at the Turkey Point Plant. On March 10, 1975, one of the 116 springs installed in Unit No. 3 spent fuel pool was found to have broken. The springs are manufactured by Unistrut Corporation, Wayne, Michigan, and are designated as part number 115792.

Very truly yours,

*J.R. Bauer*  
for A. D. Schmidt  
Vice President  
Power Resources

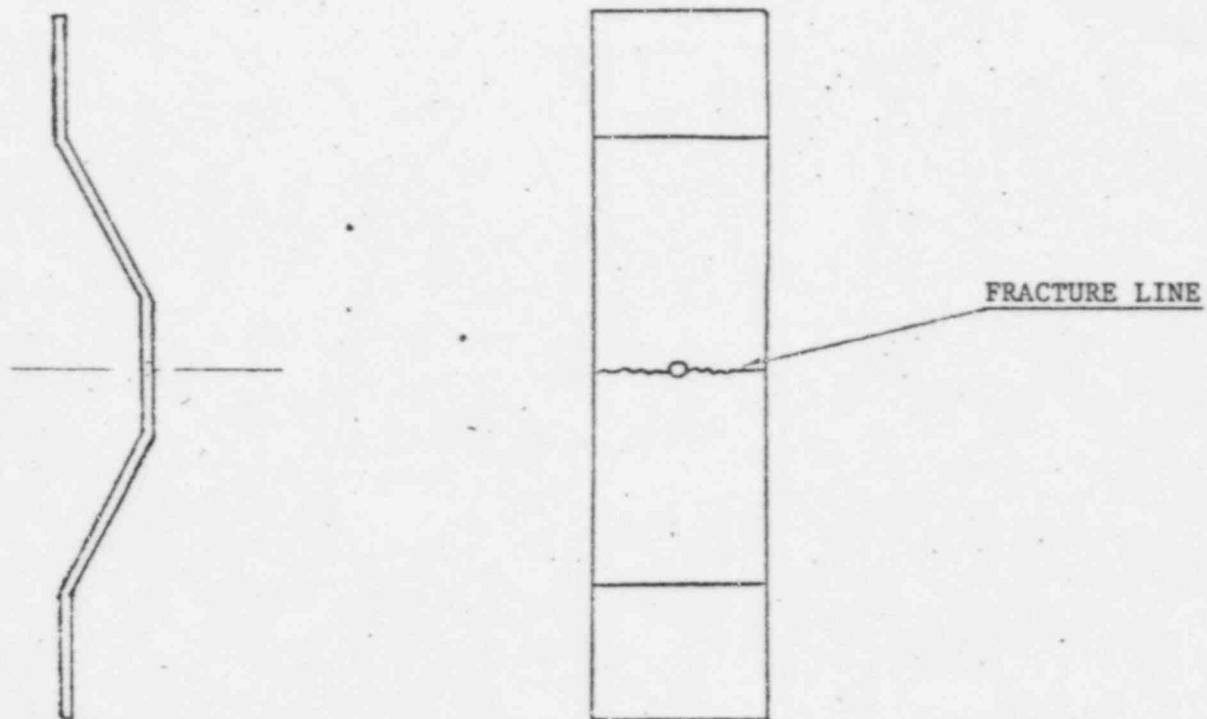
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cc: Mr. Norman C. Moseley  
Jack R. Newman, Esquire



SPRING INSTALLATION  
IN TURKEY POINT SPENT FUEL POOL

SKETCH NO. 1



STAINLESS STEEL SPRING USED FOR  
LATERAL RESTRAINT OF SPENT FUEL RACKS AT  
TURKEY POINT PLANT

SKETCH NO. 2