

Florida Power

CORPORATION

Crystal River Unit 3

Docket No. 50-302

November 15, 1996
3F1196-04

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Subject: 60 and 180 Day Response to NRC Generic Letter 96-05: Periodic Verification of Design-Basis Capability of Safety-Related Motor-Operated Valves

Reference: NRC to FPC letter, dated September 18, 1996, 3N0996-10

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the required 60 day Response, Florida Power Corporation agrees to implement the action(s) requested in GL 96-05. Florida Power Corporation has evaluated the contents of Generic Letter 96-05, "Periodic Verification of Design-Basis Capabilities of Safety-Related Motor-Operated Valves" and considers the required actions to be satisfied through the implementation of the Crystal River Unit 3 "Motor Operated Valve Program." The information provided in this letter serves as both the 60 and 180 day response requirements of the subject Generic Letter.

The following information provides the 180 day requested written summary description of the Crystal River Unit 3 "Motor Operated Valve Program" elements which specifically address changes in actuator thrust/torque output and the potential increase in valve thrust requirements due to age related degradation:

Static diagnostic testing has been initially scheduled on a three refueling outage frequency and includes as found testing, which will be used to evaluate changes in available margin. Adjustments to maintenance and/or test frequencies will be made as a result of this evaluation which ensures concerns relative to actuator performance degradation due to wear or aging are adequately addressed.

Florida Power Corporation agrees with the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) test results that indicate the potential for the thrust required to operate a valve will increase with service until a plateau is reached. It is our position that valves tested at Crystal River Unit 3 were in service for a sufficient length of time to have reached this plateau, and,

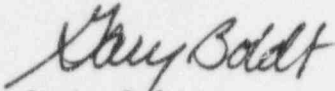
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therefore, no additional age related degradation is expected. To confirm this assumption, seven valves have been selected for dynamic testing between now and the end of Refueling Outage 12 (currently scheduled for Fall 2000). The seven valves selected are among the lowest margin valves in the program which are practical to test. If no significant changes in valve performance are observed between initial and subsequent tests, "periodic" dynamic testing on additional valves will not be deemed required. If results identify a significant change in operational thrust requirements, additional program elements will be evaluated to ensure valves remain capable of performing under design basis conditions. Under these conditions, additional "periodic" dynamic testing will be considered based upon each valves available margin.

Dynamic testing requirements are evaluated when a valve is replaced or modified, system parameters change beyond acceptable extrapolation methodologies or the margin for valve degradation is of concern.

Should you have any questions regarding this information please contact Brian Gutherman, Manager, Nuclear Licensing at 352-563-4566.

Sincerely,



G. L. Boldt
Vice President
Nuclear Production

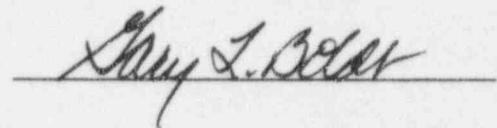
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xc: Regional Administrator, Region II
NRR Project Manager

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF CITRUS

G. L. Boldt states that he is the Vice President, Nuclear Production for Florida Power Corporation; that he is authorized on the part of said company to sign and file with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission the information attached hereto; and that all such statements made and matters set forth therein are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information, and belief.

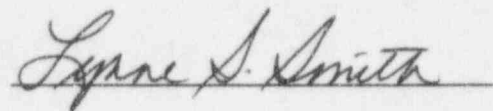


G. L. Boldt
Vice President
Nuclear Production

G. L. Boldt, personally known to me. Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and County above named, this 15th day of NOVEMBER, 1996.

LYNNE S. SMITH

Notary Public (print)



Notary Public (signature)

