

From: Leonard Wiens / *NRR*
To: WNP4.CIG Christopher Grimes, NRR
Date: 5/23/96 9:40am
Subject: TS POLICY QUESTION

Chris: I discussed a St. Lucie TS question with you a couple of weeks ago, concerning vortexing in the Refueling Water Tank. The licensee had identified that the set points in the TS may be non-conservative, and would need to be raised to ensure that vortexing would not occur. They were indicating that if the calculation confirmed that, they would enter 3.0.3 and shut down the unit while pursuing an emergency TS change.

In our discussion, you indicated that if a licensee calculation reveals that they were outside their design basis, and that a change in the CONSERVATIVE direction would return them to their design basis, they should(could?) perform a 50.59, make the setpoint change, and submit a PROMPT but normal TS change request. They would not enter 3.0.3 unless the actual RWT level were to fall to the level for which vortexing could occur. I stated at the time that I certainly agreed with this very reasonable approach (and I still do).

In a discussion this morning with the Senior Resident (Mark Miller), he asked me where this policy/position was documented, since it did not agree with his literal reading of the TS and regulations, and as a result could lead to inconsistent application of policy between NRR and the region. I did not know where or if it was documented, and had not asked you at the time. Could you help me out with any info in this area, or any plans to issue guidance? Also, if i incorrectly understood the position, let me know that. Thanks.

CC: ATD1.ATP1.MSM