

SPCLNIR2.ENG

November 14, 1996

EA 96-457

Florida Power & Light Company  
ATTN: T. F. Plunkett  
President - Nuclear Division  
P. O. Box 14000  
Juno Beach, Florida 33408-0420

SUBJECT: NRC SPECIAL INSPECTION REPORT 50-335/96-22, 50-389/96-22

Dear Mr. Plunkett:

On November 14, 1996, the NRC completed a special inspection of engineering activities at your St. Lucie 1 and 2 facilities. The enclosed report presents the results of that inspection. Areas examined during the inspection are identified in the report. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, plant drawings, and engineering evaluations.

Based on the results of this inspection, two apparent violations were identified and are being considered for escalated enforcement action in accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedure for NRC Enforcement Actions" (Enforcement Policy), NUREG-1600.

REWRITE THE NEXT TWO PARAGRAPHS

One of the apparent violations is of concern because it indicates that deficiencies have existed in your configuration management processes which have manifested themselves in failures to ensure that the design of the plant was properly incorporated into plant procedures and, to a lesser degree, drawings. While no plant event has been tied to the inaccuracies thus far identified, we are concerned about the potential impact of inaccuracies which may not yet have been discovered.

In addition to configuration management issues, four apparent violations were identified in the area of preparation of safety evaluations under 10 CFR 50.59. These apparent violations are of concern because they indicate that weaknesses exist in both recognizing the need for safety evaluations and in the process applied in assessing the impact of changes upon the plant.

A predecisional enforcement conference to discuss these apparent violations has been scheduled for December 10, 1996. The decision to hold a predecisional enforcement conference does not mean that the NRC has determined that a

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violation has occurred or that enforcement action will be taken. This conference is being held to obtain information to enable the NRC to make an enforcement decision, such as a common understanding of the facts, root causes, missed opportunities to identify the apparent violations sooner, corrective actions, significance of the issues and the need for lasting and effective corrective actions. In addition, this is an opportunity for you to point out any errors in our inspection report and for you to provide any information concerning your perspectives on 1) the severity of the violations, 2) the application of the factors that the NRC considers when it determines the amount of a civil penalty that may be assessed in accordance with Section VI.B.2 of the Enforcement Policy, and 3) any other application of the Enforcement Policy to this case, including the exercise of discretion in accordance with Section VII.

You will be advised by separate correspondence of the results of our deliberations on this matter. No response regarding these apparent violations is required at this time.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR).

Sincerely,

Ellis W. Merschoff, Director  
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 50-335, 50-389  
License Nos. DPR-67, NPF-16

Enclosure: Inspection Report 50-335/96-22, 50-389/96-22

cc w/encl:  
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