



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION II**
245 PEACHTREE CENTER AVENUE NE, SUITE 1200
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-1257

May 10, 2012

Mr. Mano Nazar
Executive Vice President
Nuclear and Chief Nuclear Officer
Florida Power and Light Company
P.O. Box 14000
Juno Beach, FL 33408-0420

**SUBJECT: ASSESSMENT FOLLOW-UP LETTER FOR ST. LUCIE NUCLEAR PLANT
UNIT 1**

Dear Mr. Nazar:

As a result of the quarterly review of plant performance, which was completed on April 25, 2012, the NRC updated its assessment of St. Lucie Nuclear Plant Unit 1. The NRC's evaluation consisted of a review of performance indicators and inspection results. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment and plans for a future NRC inspection at your facility. This letter supplements, but does not supersede, the annual assessment letter issued on March 5, 2012.

The NRC's review of St. Lucie Nuclear Plant Unit 1 identified that the Unplanned Scrams per 7000 Critical Hours performance indicator has crossed the green-to-white threshold. This was due to one trip in the third quarter of 2011, one trip in the fourth quarter of 2011, and one trip in the first quarter of 2012. Additionally, our review identified that the Unplanned Scrams with Complications performance indicator crossed the green-to-white threshold. This was due to one complicated trip in the third quarter of 2011, and one complicated trip in the first quarter of 2012.

The NRC determined the performance at St. Lucie Nuclear Plant Unit 1 to be in the Degraded Cornerstone Column of the Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Action Matrix beginning first quarter of 2012, based on the performance indicator (PI) data reported to the NRC. Therefore, the NRC plans to conduct a supplemental inspection in accordance with Inspection Procedure 95002, "Supplemental Inspection for One Degraded Cornerstone or Any Three White Inputs in a Strategic Performance Area," to provide assurance that the root causes and contributing causes of risk-significant performance issues are understood, that the extent of condition and cause is identified, to determine if any safety culture components caused or contributed to the performance issues, and to ensure the licensee's corrective actions for risk-significant performance issues are sufficient to address the root and contributing causes and prevent recurrence. The NRC understands that a frequently asked question (FAQ) was introduced to the ROP Working Group on May 2, 2012, to determine if the March 31, 2012, reactor trip counts as an unplanned scram with complications under the associated PI. For this reason, we do not currently intend to conduct the supplemental inspection until after the FAQ is resolved. The

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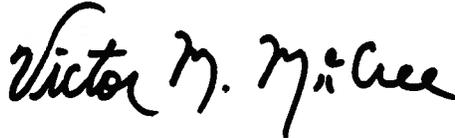
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NRC requests that your staff provide notification of your readiness for the NRC to conduct a supplemental inspection to review the actions taken to address these White Performance Indicator(s).

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Please contact Steven Rose at 404-997-4609 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Victor M. McCree". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "V" at the beginning.

Victor M. McCree
Regional Administrator

Docket No.: 50-335
License No.: DPR-67

cc: (See page 3)

cc:

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