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NRC STAFF PROPOSES \$125,000 FINE AGAINST CP&L
FOR ALLEGED VIOLATION AT BRUNSWICK

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has proposed a \$125,000 civil penalty against Carolina Power & Light Company for alleged violation of NRC requirements at the Brunswick nuclear power plant, located at Southport, NC, about 30 miles south of Wilmington, NC.

NRC officials said the civil penalty was being proposed because of two instances involving inadequate corrective actions for previous violations concerning work control and independent verification procedures. One instance involved improper alignment of a valve and a lack of independent verification because a procedure was not followed. The other involved a maintenance mechanic who performed air intake valve adjustments on a diesel generator without using a required maintenance instruction and without supervision by management or quality control oversight.

In a letter to the company, Stewart D. Ebnetter, Administrator of the NRC's Region II office in Atlanta, said the violations indicate that corrective actions to address previous similar violations have been inadequate. On May 31, 1991, the NRC proposed an \$87,500 fine against the company for similar problems.

The NRC said the base civil penalty for the current violation was \$50,000 but that it was increased in this case to \$125,000 because the NRC identified the first violation and the second was discovered as a result of troubleshooting abnormal diesel generator operation. It was also increased because past performance in previous corrective actions for similar problems have not been effective.

The company has 30 days from receipt of the Notice of Violation to either pay the civil penalty or to protest it, in whole or in part.

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