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**NRC STAFF PROPOSES \$225,000 CIVIL PENALTY AGAINST CP&L
FOR ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF NRC REQUIREMENTS AT BRUNSWICK PLANT**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has proposed a \$225,000 civil penalty against Carolina Power & Light Company for alleged violation of NRC requirements at the Brunswick nuclear power plant located near Southport, North Carolina.

In a letter to the company dated February 10, 1993, Stewart D. Ebnetter, Administrator of the NRC's Region II office in Atlanta, said the fine was being proposed because of a "significant breakdown" in the corrective action program at Brunswick related to deficiencies in masonry wall construction which were identified by the CP&L staff as early as 1987 but not corrected until prompted by the NRC staff in 1992.

The NRC said that on February 13, 1987, a CP&L engineer identified and documented information that certain bolts, required for seismic adequacy of masonry walls in the emergency diesel generator building, were inadequately installed. The agency added that it appears that two additional requests from the CP&L staff were made in April, 1988, and September, 1989, for technical support related to the deficiency.

Calculations related to the adequacy of the bolts were challenged by NRC inspectors in April of 1992. The company found that previous calculations were in error because they assumed that more bolts were installed than were actually present.

The NRC said the base civil penalty for this violation was \$50,000 but that it was increased in this case because of the plant's previous enforcement history, the duration of the existence of the deficiency, the fact that the company had prior opportunity to identify it, and because it was only after prompting by the NRC staff that additional evaluations were performed which identified the problem.

CP&L has 30 days from receipt of the Notice of Violation to either pay the civil penalty or to protest it.

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