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NRC COMMISSIONER DIAZ TO VISIT CRYSTAL RIVER NUCLEAR PLANT

Former University of Florida Professor Will Talk to Press

Dr. Nils J. Diaz, a University of Florida professor of nuclear engineering before his appointment by President Clinton to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, will visit Florida Power Corporation's Crystal River nuclear power plant on December 12, following meetings with company officials and a tour of the plant. He will be available to talk to news media representatives at 3:00 p.m. (EST) at the plant Visitor Center.

Dr. Diaz was sworn in as a member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission on August 23 of this year. Prior to joining the NRC, he was director of the Innovative Nuclear Space Power and Propulsion Institute, a national consortium of universities and industry, in addition to his work at the University of Florida at Gainesville.

He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering from the University of Villanova, in Cuba, and both Master of Science and Ph.D degrees from the University of Florida in nuclear engineering and sciences.

Dr. Diaz served abroad in the 1980's as the principal consultant to Spain's Nuclear Regulatory Commission and has consulted for the governments of Mexico, Venezuela, Brazil and Argentina.

At Crystal River, he will discuss the nuclear power plant's performance with company officials before taking time to meet with news media representatives to answer questions of interest.

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EDITORS: Interested news media representatives should come to the plant Visitor Center. It will be helpful if interested electronic media representatives can arrive 10 minutes early in order to arrange microphones, cameras or lights.