

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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NRC STAFF SETS ENFORCEMENT CONFERENCE WITH FP&L
TO DISCUSS ST. LUCIE FIRE PROTECTION COMPLIANCE

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has scheduled a predecisional enforcement conference in Atlanta on Thursday, January 7, to discuss with Florida Power & Light Company officials apparent violations of NRC fire protection requirements at the St. Lucie nuclear power plant, located on Hutchinson Island near Ft. Pierce, Florida.

The meeting will be held from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the NRC's Region II office, located in the Atlanta Federal Center at 61 Forsyth Street on the 24th floor. It is open to observation by interested members of the public and news media representatives. NRC officials will be available at its conclusion to answer questions from interested observers.

NRC officials said the agency will discuss with company representatives four apparent violations involving deficiencies in the plant's fire protection program, identified in connection with an NRC Fire Protection Functional Inspection at the plant which NRC inspectors conducted earlier this year.

The decision to hold a predecisional enforcement conference does not mean that a determination has been made that a violation has occurred or that enforcement action will be taken. The purpose is to discuss the apparent violations, their causes and safety significance; to provide the licensee with an opportunity to point out errors that may have been made in NRC inspection reports; and to enable the licensee to outline its proposed corrective actions.

No decision on the apparent violations or any contemplated enforcement action, such as a civil penalty, will be made at the conference. Those decisions will be made by NRC officials at a later time.

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