

August 31, 2001

Mr. J. A. Stall
Senior Vice President, Nuclear and
Chief Nuclear Officer
Florida Power and Light Company
P.O. Box 14000
Juno Beach, Florida 33408-0420

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING THE
10 CFR PART 50, APPENDIX R, EXEMPTION REQUEST K1 FOR THE
ST. LUCIE PLANT, UNIT 1 (TAC NO. MB0300)

Dear Mr. Stall:

By letter dated October 4, 2000, Florida Power and Light Company (FPL) resubmitted Title 10, *Code of Federal Regulations*, Part 50, Appendix R, Exemption Request K1, which dealt with cable separation issues in the St. Lucie Unit 1 containment building. Supplemental risk-informed information was provided by letter dated June 28, 2001.

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff reviewed your submittals and determined that additional information was needed to complete the review. This was discussed in a conference call on August 16, 2001, between the NRC and FPL. These discussions concluded that, given the state of the art with respect to risk-informed treatment of fire-induced spurious actuations, a risk-informed approach would not be appropriate at this time. The FPL staff indicated they could provide a plant-specific fire model, which would support a deterministic evaluation, and the NRC staff agreed to continue its evaluation using a deterministic approach if this information is submitted. The NRC staff identified additional information needed to support a deterministic evaluation, based upon review of the previous submittals. This is provided in the enclosed Request For Additional Information (RAI).

On August 27, 2001, Mr. Ken Frehafer of your staff agreed that a revised submittal, including response to the enclosed RAI, would be provided by November 30, 2001.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-3974.

Sincerely,

/RA by Kahtan N. Jabbour Acting for/
Brendan T. Moroney, Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-335

Enclosure: Request for Additional Information

cc w/encl: See next page

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Mr. J. A. Stall
Florida Power and Light Company

cc:
Senior Resident Inspector
St. Lucie Plant
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
P.O. Box 6090
Jensen Beach, Florida 34957

Joe Myers, Director
Division of Emergency Preparedness
Department of Community Affairs
2740 Centerview Drive
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2100

M. S. Ross, Attorney
Florida Power & Light Company
P.O. Box 14000
Juno Beach, FL 33408-0420

Mr. Douglas Anderson
County Administrator
St. Lucie County
2300 Virginia Avenue
Fort Pierce, Florida 34982

Mr. William A. Passetti, Chief
Department of Health
Bureau of Radiation Control
2020 Capital Circle, SE, Bin #C21
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1741

Mr. Donald E. Jernigan, Site Vice President
St. Lucie Nuclear Plant
6501 South Ocean Drive
Jensen Beach, Florida 34957

ST. LUCIE PLANT

Mr. R. G. West
Plant General Manager
St. Lucie Nuclear Plant
6351 South Ocean Drive
Jensen Beach, Florida 34957

E. J. Weinkam
Licensing Manager
St. Lucie Nuclear Plant
6351 South Ocean Drive
Jensen Beach, Florida 34957

Mr. Don Mothena
Manager, Nuclear Plant Support Services
Florida Power & Light Company
P.O. Box 14000
Juno Beach, FL 33408-0420

Mr. Rajiv S. Kundalkar
Vice President - Nuclear Engineering
Florida Power & Light Company
P.O. Box 14000
Juno Beach, FL 33408-0420

Mr. J. Kammel
Radiological Emergency
Planning Administrator
Department of Public Safety
6000 SE. Tower Drive
Stuart, Florida 34997

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
10 CFR PART 50, APPENDIX R, EXEMPTION K1
ST. LUCIE PLANT, UNIT 1
DOCKET NO. 50-335

1. The original exemption dated February 21, 1985, addressed the entire containment annular region. Florida Power & Light has stated that corrective actions have been completed in several areas and an exemption is needed only for a segment of the containment annular region between columns 2 and 6 above and below the 45' elevation. Provide specific details of the area requiring the exemption.
2. The revised exemption dated March 5, 1987, indicated that there were "limited intervening combustibles" in the containment annular region. If there are any intervening combustibles in the area for which the exemption is sought, they should be included in the fire model.
3. Radiant exposure was listed as the only credible scenario. Can the set of cable trays on the lower elevation involve the cable trays in the same train on the upper elevation? Are there any other structures, systems or components important to safety, which could be in the plume?
4. Provide the basis for the assumption that solid enclosures of cable trays eliminates them as a fuel source.
5. The bench scale heat release rate uses an average of one type of non-rated cable and two types of rated cables. Is this representative of the amount of non-rated cable installed? Why not assume all non-rated cable to obtain bounding results?
6. What are the pass/fail criteria? What is the maximum credible length of cable in a cable tray that can be involved in a fire? How fast will a fire in a cable tray grow? Will a fire in cable tray risers grow faster than in horizontal cable trays, and how does it affect the analysis? What is the response time for the fire brigade to extinguish a fire in a containment cable tray at full power or following a plant trip?

Enclosure