

August 10, 1998

Mr. T. F. Plunkett
President - Nuclear Division
Florida Power and Light Company
P.O. Box 14000
Juno Beach, Florida 33408-0420

SUBJECT: ST. LUCIE PLANT UNITS 1 AND 2 - ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENTS
REGARDING WASTE DECAY TANK MONITORING REQUIREMENTS
(TAC NOS. MA2061, MA2062)

Dear Mr. Plunkett:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment Nos. 156 and 94 to Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-67 and NPF-16 for the St. Lucie Plant, Unit Nos. 1 and 2, respectively. These amendments consist of changes to the Technical Specifications (TS) in response to your application dated June 3, 1998, regarding administrative changes to the TS to clarify the requirements for periodic monitoring of explosive gas concentrations in the waste gas decay tanks when continuous monitoring of the tanks is inoperable.

These amendments revise the surveillance requirements of TS Section 4.11.2.5.1, Explosive Gas Mixture, to add a reference to the St. Lucie Units 1 and 2 Updated Final Safety Analysis Reports for clarification of an alternative monitoring method to be used in the event that continuous monitoring of explosive gas mixtures in the waste decay tanks becomes inoperable.

A copy of the Safety Evaluation is also enclosed. The Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's biweekly Federal Register notice.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

William C. Gleaves, Project Manager
Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-335, 50-389

- Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 156 to DPR-67
- 2. Amendment No. 94 to NPF-16
- 3. Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosures: See next page

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

August 10, 1998

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President - Nuclear Division
Florida Power and Light Company
P.O. Box 14000
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Wm C Gleaves".

William C. Gleaves, Project Manager
Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-335, 50-389

Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 156 to DPR-67
2. Amendment No. 94 to NPF-16
3. Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosures: See next page

Mr. T. F. Plunkett
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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

FLORIDA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

DOCKET NO. 50-335

ST. LUCIE PLANT UNIT NO. 1

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 156
License No. DPR-67

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
 - A. The application for amendment by Florida Power & Light Company (the licensee), dated June 3, 1998, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act) and the Commission's rules and regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
 - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
 - C. There is reasonable assurance (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations;
 - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
 - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.

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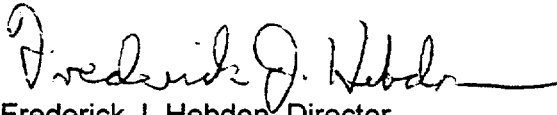
2. Accordingly, Facility Operating License No. DPR-67 is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment, and by amending paragraph 2.C.(2) to read as follows:

(2) Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendices A and B, as revised through Amendment No. 156, are hereby incorporated in the license. The licensee shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications.

3. This license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance and shall be implemented within 30 days of receipt.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Frederick J. Hebdon, Director
Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment:
Changes to the Technical
Specifications

Date of Issuance: August 10, 1998

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 156

TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-67

DOCKET NO. 50-335

Replace the following pages of the Appendix "A" Technical Specifications with the enclosed pages. The revised pages are identified by amendment number and contain vertical lines indicating the area of change.

Remove Page

3/4 11-14

Insert Page

3/4 11-14

RADIOACTIVE EFFLUENTS

EXPLOSIVE GAS MIXTURE

LIMITING CONDITION FOR OPERATION

3.11.2.5 The concentration of oxygen in the waste gas decay tanks shall be limited to less than or equal to 2% by volume whenever the hydrogen concentration exceeds 4% by volume.

APPLICABILITY: At all times.

ACTION:

- a. With the concentration of oxygen in the waste gas decay tank greater than 2% by volume but less than or equal to 4% by volume, reduce the oxygen concentration to the above limits within 48 hours.
- b. With the concentration of oxygen in the waste gas decay tank greater than 4% by volume and the hydrogen concentration greater than 2% by volume, immediately suspend all additions of waste gases to the system and immediately commence reduction of the concentration of oxygen to less than or equal to 2% by volume.
- c. The provisions of Specifications 3.0.3 and 3.0.4 are not applicable.

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS

- 4.11.2.5.1 The concentration of oxygen in the waste gas decay tank shall be determined to be within the above limits by continuously* monitoring the waste gases in the on service waste gas decay tank.
- 4.11.2.5.2 With the oxygen concentration in the on service waste gas decay tank greater than 2% by volume as determined by Specification 4.11.2.5.1, the concentration of hydrogen in the waste gas decay tank shall be determined to be within the above limits by gas partitioner sample at least once per 24 hours.

* When continuous monitoring capability is inoperable, waste gases shall be monitored in accordance with the actions specified for the Waste Gas Decay Tanks Explosive Gas Monitoring System in Chapter 13 of the Updated Final Safety Analysis Report.



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

FLORIDA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

ORLANDO UTILITIES COMMISSION OF

THE CITY OF ORLANDO, FLORIDA

AND

FLORIDA MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY

DOCKET NO. 50-389

ST. LUCIE PLANT UNIT NO. 2

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 94
License No. NPF-16

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
 - A. The application for amendment by Florida Power & Light Company, et al. (the licensee), dated June 3, 1998, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act) and the Commission's rules and regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
 - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
 - C. There is reasonable assurance (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations;
 - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
 - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.

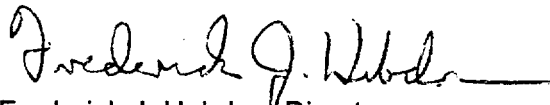
2. Accordingly, Facility Operating License No. NPF-16 is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment, and by amending paragraph 2.C.2 to read as follows:

2. Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendices A and B, as revised through Amendment No. 94, are hereby incorporated in the license. The licensee shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications.

3. This license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance and shall be implemented within 30 days of receipt.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY
COMMISSION



Frederick J. Hebdon, Director
Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment:
Changes to the Technical
Specifications

Date of Issuance: August 10, 1998

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 94

TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-16

DOCKET NO. 50-389

Replace the following pages of the Appendix "A" Technical Specifications with the enclosed pages. The revised pages are identified by amendment number and contain vertical lines indicating the area of change.

Remove Page

3/4 11-14

Insert Page

3/4 11-14

RADIOACTIVE EFFLUENT

EXPLOSIVE GAS MIXTURE

LIMITING CONDITION FOR OPERATION

3.11.2.5 The concentration of oxygen in the waste gas decay tanks shall be limited to less than or equal to 2% by volume whenever the hydrogen concentration exceeds 4% by volume.

APPLICABILITY: At all times.

ACTION:

- a. With the concentration of oxygen in the waste gas decay tank greater than 2% by volume but less than or equal to 4% by volume, reduce the oxygen concentration to the above limits within 48 hours.
- b. With the concentration of oxygen in the waste gas decay tank greater than 4% by volume and the hydrogen concentration greater than 2% by volume, immediately suspend all additions of waste gases to the system and immediately commence reduction of the concentration of oxygen to less than or equal to 2% by volume.
- c. The provisions of Specifications 3.0.3 and 3.0.4 are not applicable.

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS

4.11.2.5.1 The concentration of oxygen in the waste gas decay tank shall be determined to be within the above limits by continuously* monitoring the waste gases in the on service waste gas decay tank.

4.11.2.5.2 With the oxygen concentration in the on service waste gas decay tank greater than 2% by volume as determined by Specification 4.11.2.5.1, the concentration of hydrogen in the waste gas decay tank shall be determined to be within the above limits by gas partitioner sample at least once per 24 hours.

* When continuous monitoring capability is inoperable, waste gases shall be monitored in accordance with the actions specified for the Waste Gas Decay Tanks Explosive Gas Monitoring System in Chapter 13 of the Updated Final Safety Analysis Report.



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 156 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-67

AND AMENDMENT NO. 94 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-16

FLORIDA POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY, ET AL.

ST. LUCIE PLANT, UNIT NOS. 1 AND 2

DOCKET NOS. 50-335 AND 50-389

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated June 3, 1998, Florida Power and Light (FPL or licensee) requested Technical Specification (TS) amendments for St. Lucie plant Units 1 and 2. The proposed amendments would change the TS Section 4.11.2.5.1 to add a reference to the Updated Safety Analysis Report (UFSAR) for supplemental surveillance requirements in the event that the explosive gas continuous monitors on the waste decay tanks become inoperable.

The licensee previously submitted TS amendment requests, which were granted by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and documented in an NRC Safety Evaluation dated August 20, 1996, to relocate the explosive gas monitoring instrumentation requirements from the TS to the UFSAR. Due to an inadequate licensee review of these submittals, TS Section 3.3.3.10, which discussed continuous monitoring of the waste decay tanks by 24 hour grab sampling, was moved to the UFSAR and the necessary reference from TS Section 4.11.2.5.1 to the UFSAR Table 13.7.1-5 was not provided. This proposed amendment would eliminate the conflict between TS Section 4.11.2.5.1 and the UFSAR Table 13.7.1-5.

2.0 BACKGROUND

Section 182a of the Atomic Energy Act (the Act) requires applicants for nuclear power plant operating licenses to include TS as part of the license. The Commission's regulatory requirements related to the contents of the TS include items in five specific categories; (1) safety limits, limiting safety system settings and limiting control settings, (2) limiting conditions for operation, (3) surveillance requirements, (4) design features, and (5) administrative controls. However, the regulation does not specify the particular requirements to be included in a plant's TS.

The Commission has provided guidance of the contents of the TS in its "Final Policy Statement of Technical Specification Improvements for Nuclear Power Reactors" (Final Policy Statement), 58 FR 39132 (July 22, 1993), in which the Commission indicated that compliance with the Final Policy Statement satisfies Section 182a of the Act. In particular, the Commission indicated that certain items could be relocated from the TS to licensee-controlled documents, consistent with

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the standard enunciated in *Portland General Electric Co. (Trojan Nuclear Plant)*, ALAB-531, 9 NRC 263, 273 (1979). In that case, the Atomic Safety and Licensing Appeal Board indicated that "technical specifications are to be reserved for those matters as to which the imposition of rigid conditions or limitations upon reactor operation is deemed necessary to obviate the possibility of an abnormal situation or event giving rise to an immediate threat to the public health and safety."

Consistent with this approach, the licensee had requested that TS Section 3.3.3.10 be relocated from the TS to the UFSAR, which was granted and documented in a NRC Safety Evaluation dated August 20, 1996. It was during this relocation that the inconsistency between the TS and the UFSAR was created. The relocated TS sections were added to the UFSAR as Sections 13.8.1.4 and 13.7.1.4 for Units 1 and 2, respectively.

3.0 EVALUATION

By letter dated June 3, 1998, FPL submitted a request for amendments to the St. Lucie TS. The requested amendments would change the current TS for Units 1 and 2 to add a footnote to TS Surveillance Requirements 4.11.2.5.1 that clarifies the available alternatives when continuous sampling of waste gases in the waste decay tanks is not available.

The current surveillance requirements in TS Section 4.11.2.5.1 read as follows:

The concentration of oxygen in the waste gas decay tank shall be determined to be within the above limits by continuously monitoring the waste gases in the on service waste gas decay tank.

The licensee proposed to modify this paragraph to add an asterisk after the word "continuously," which relates to a footnote added to the same page which would read:

When continuous monitoring capability is inoperable, waste gases shall be monitored in accordance with the actions specified for the Waste Gas Decay Tanks Explosive Gas Monitoring System in Chapter 13 of the Updated Final Safety Analysis Report.

UFSAR Section 13.7.1.5 describes the limiting conditions for operation and surveillance requirements for the explosive gas monitoring system. The limiting condition for operation references Table 13.7.1-5 in the UFSAR when less than the minimum number of explosive gas monitoring instrumentation channels is operable. Action 1 of Table 13.7.1-5 applies during waste gas system operation and reads as follows:

With the number of channels OPERABLE on less than required by the Minimum Channels OPERABLE requirement, operation of this system may continue for up to 30 days provided samples of oxygen are analyzed by the lab gas partitioner at least once per 24 hours.

The explosive gas monitoring instrumentation monitors the concentrations of potentially explosive gas mixtures in the Gaseous Radwaste System. The explosive gas monitoring

instrumentation requirements address detection of possible precursors to the failure of the waste gas system but do not prevent or mitigate design basis accidents or transients which assume a failure of or present a challenge to a fission product barrier. Acceptable concentrations of explosive gases are actually controlled by the limiting conditions for operation and surveillance requirements of TS 3.11.2.5, Explosive Gas Mixture.

These amendments do not involve a changes to the design or operation of the system, the levels of concentration of potentially explosive gases, or the actions that will be taken in the event that continuous monitoring of the waste gas decay tanks becomes inoperable. These proposed amendments provide clarification to the TS surveillance requirement as discussed previously, and are therefore administrative in nature.

4.0 STAFF CONCLUSION

The staff concludes that the proposed amendments provide both clarification and a necessary reference to the UFSAR for St. Lucie Units 1 and 2. The requirements contained in the UFSAR, and referenced by these proposed amendments, were incorporated by NRC Safety Evaluation dated August 20, 1998. Therefore, the staff finds the proposed amendments acceptable.

5.0 STATE CONSULTATION

Based upon a letter dated March 8, 1991, from the State of Florida to Deborah A. Miller, NRC, the State of Florida has no comments.

6.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendment changes administrative requirements and surveillance requirements. The Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration and there has been no public comment on such finding (63 FR 35990). Accordingly, this amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9) and (c)(10). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b) no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of this amendment.

7.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that, (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributor: William C. Gleaves

Dated: August 10, 1998