

LICENSEE: FLORIDA POWER & LIGHT CO.
 SITE: TURKEY POINT 3 EN NUMBER: 25052
 DOCKET: 05000250 EVENT DATE: 02-10-93
 RX TYPE: PWR EVENT TIME: 16:15
 VENDORS: W-3-LP NOTIFY DATE: 02-10-93
 EMERGENCY CLASS: N/A REGION: 2 STATE: FL TIME: 16:44
 OPS OFFICER: GREG SCARFO
 10 CFR SECTION: AUNA 50.72(b)(1)(ii)(A) UNANALYZED COND OP
 UNIT SCRAM RX INIT INITIAL MODE CURR CURRENT MODE
 CODE CRIT PWR PWR
 3 N Y 100 POWER OPERATION 100 POWER OPERATION

MISPOSITIONED BURNABLE POISONS IN THE LATEST FUEL LOAD MAY HAVE CAUSED THE UNIT TO OPERATE IN AN UNANALYZED CONDITION.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF A FACSIMILE SUBMITTED BY THE LICENSEE:

"ON JANUARY 14, 1993, WITH TURKEY POINT UNITS 3 AND 4 IN MODE 1 (POWER OPERATION) AT 100% POWER, FLORIDA POWER AND LIGHT (FPL) WAS NOTIFIED BY WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC CORPORATION (NUCLEAR FUEL SUPPLIER) THAT THE WET ANNULAR BURNABLE ABSORBER (WABA) ASSEMBLIES WERE NOT MANUFACTURED ACCORDING TO THE DESIGN SPECIFICATION. BOTH UNITS WERE OPERATING IN CYCLE 13.

SPECIFICALLY, BEGINNING WITH UNIT 3 CYCLE 12 RELOAD, FPL INTRODUCED A NEW FUEL ASSEMBLY DESIGN FEATURE INVOLVING DEBRIS RESISTANT FUEL RODS. THE DEBRIS RESISTANT DESIGN INVOLVED INCREASING THE LENGTH OF THE SOLID FUEL ROD END CAP AND REPOSITIONING THE ACTIVE FUEL HEIGHT UP 1.368 INCHES FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE FUEL ROD. THE RELOAD DESIGN FOR UNIT 3 CYCLE 13 AND UNIT 4 CYCLE 13 REQUIRED THE ABSORBER SECTION OF THE WABAs BE REPOSITIONED ON CENTER TO MATCH THE CORRESPONDING REPOSITIONED ACTIVE FUEL HEIGHT.

DURING THE STARTUP OF TURKEY POINT UNIT 3 CYCLE 13, FPL MEASURED A HIGHER LOCAL PEAKING FACTOR (F_q) AND A MORE TOP-PEAKED BEGINNING OF CYCLE AXIAL POWER DISTRIBUTION THAN PREDICTED BY CORE MODELS. AS A RESULT OF FURTHER INVESTIGATIONS, WESTINGHOUSE DETERMINED THAT THE ABSORBER SECTION OF THE WABA HAD NOT BEEN MANUFACTURED IN ACCORDANCE WITH DESIGN SPECIFICATION FOR THE FUEL RELOAD. FPL HAS DETERMINED THAT FROM AN INITIAL CORE BURNUP OF 0 TO 1000 MEGAWATT-DAYS/METRIC TON URANIUM (MWD/MTU), TURKEY POINT UNIT 3 COULD POTENTIALLY HAVE OPERATED IN AN "UNANALYZED CONDITION THAT SIGNIFICANTLY COMPROMISED PLANT SAFETY." PRESENTLY, TURKEY POINT UNIT 3 HAS A CYCLE BURNUP OF APPROXIMATELY 1640 MWD/MTU, AND AT NO TIME IN THE CYCLE HAS FPL VIOLATED THE F_q TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION LIMIT. AT NO TIME HAS EITHER TURKEY POINT UNIT 3 OR 4 OPERATED IN A CONDITION OUTSIDE

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OF THE DESIGN BASES OF THE PLANTS."
END OF TEXT.

THE LICENSEE IS REPORTING THIS EVENT DUE TO THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE UNIT WAS OPERATING IN AN UNANALYZED CONDITION DUE TO THE REPOSITIONING OF THE WABAs THAT COULD HAVE VIOLATED Fq AND AXIAL POWER DISTRIBUTION LIMITS. SUBSEQUENT ANALYSIS INDICATED THAT SUCH A CONDITION NEVER EXISTED DURING PLANT OPERATIONS. THE LICENSEE INFORMED THE NRC RESIDENT INSPECTOR.