

March 21, 1991

Docket No. 50-302

Mr. Percy M. Beard, Jr.
Senior Vice President,
Nuclear Operations
Florida Power Corporation
ATTN: Manager, Nuclear Operations
Licensing
P. O. Box 219-NA-2I
Crystal River, Florida 32629

Dear Mr. Beard:

SUBJECT: CRYSTAL RIVER UNIT 3 - ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF EXEMPTION
REQUEST FROM SIMULATION FACILITY SCHEDULE REQUIREMENTS
(TAC NO. 79396)

Enclosed is a copy of an "Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact" for your information. This environmental assessment relates to your letter dated January 3, 1991, which requested temporary relief from the simulation facility schedule requirements specified in 10 CFR 55.45(b)(iii) and (iv).

The environmental assessment has been forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

(Original Signed By)

Harley Silver, Project Manager
Project Directorate II-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

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Docket File

NRC & Local PDRs

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cc: Plant Service list

Mr. Percy M. Beard, Jr.
Florida Power Corporation

Crystal River Unit No. 3 Nuclear
Generating Plant

cc:

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The Capitol
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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONFLORIDA POWER CORPORATIONDOCKET NO. 50-302ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of exemptions from the requirements of 10 CFR 55.45(b)(iii) and (iv) to Florida Power Corporation (the licensee), for the Crystal River Unit 3 Nuclear Generating Plant, located in Citrus County, Florida.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTIdentification of Proposed Action:

The proposed exemptions would (1) allow the licensee an extension from March 26, 1991 to September 27, 1991 to submit Form NRC-474, "Simulation Facility Certification," and (2) allow the licensee to use the Crystal River 3 simulator for administration of the simulation facility portion of the NRC-administered requalification test before the facility is certified.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed exemptions are needed in order to permit utilization of the simulator facilities to enhance operator performance and plant safety.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The proposed exemptions do not involve any measurable environmental impacts since plant configuration and operation are not changed. Thus, the proposed exemptions will not significantly affect the probability or

consequences of potential reactor accidents and would not otherwise affect radiological plant effluents. Consequently, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological impacts associated with the proposed exemptions.

With regard to potential non-radiological impacts, the proposed exemptions do not affect non-radiological plant effluents and have no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant non-radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed exemptions.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action:

Since the Commission has concluded that the environmental effects of the proposed action are not significant, any alternative with equal or greater environmental impacts need not be evaluated.

The principal alternative would be to deny the requested exemptions. This would not reduce environmental impacts nor enhance the protection of the environment.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement for the Crystal River Unit 3 Nuclear Generating Plant.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

The NRC staff reviewed the licensee's request and did not consult with any other agencies or persons.

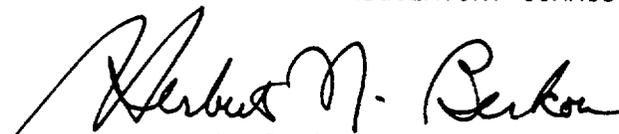
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, the staff concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. The Commission has, therefore, determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed action.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for exemptions dated January 3, 1991, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., and at the Coastal Region Library, 8619 W. Crystal Street, Crystal River, Florida 32629.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 21 day of March 1991.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Herbert N. Berkow, Director
Project Directorate II-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation