

December 15, 1987

Docket No. 50-302

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Mr. W. S. Wilgus
 Vice President - Nuclear Operations
 Florida Power Corporation
 ATTN: Manager, Nuclear Licensing
 P.O. Box 219
 Crystal River, Florida 32629

Dear Mr. Wilgus:

SUBJECT: CRYSTAL RIVER UNIT 3 - ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF EXEMPTION
REQUEST FROM 10 CFR 50, APPENDIX A, GENERAL DESIGN CRITERION-17

Enclosed is a copy of a "Notice of Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact" for your information. This notice relates to your letter dated December 14, 1987, which requested an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 50, Appendix A, General Design Criterion-17.

This notice is being forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

/s/

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

LA: PD82
 DMiller
 12/15/87

PM: PD22
 HSilver
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D: PD22
 HBerkow
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Mr. W. S. Wilgus
Florida Power Corporation

Crystal River Unit No. 3 Nuclear
Generating Plant

cc:

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and General Counsel
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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONFLORIDA POWER CORPORATIONDOCKET NO. 50-302NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ANDFINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an exemption from the requirements of Appendix A to 10 CFR 50 to the Florida Power Corporation (the licensee), for the Crystal River Unit 3 Nuclear Generating Plant, located in Crystal River, Florida.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTIdentification of Proposed Action:

The proposed exemption would allow temporary relief from the requirements of General Design Criterion-17 (GDC-17) for the Crystal River Unit 3 Nuclear Generating Plant.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed exemption is needed on a temporary basis in order to allow the diesel generators to be operated at the maximum calculated accident load, which would, in turn, permit plant operation during the next cycle until modifications could be made which would bring the plant into compliance with GDC-17.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The proposed exemption does not involve any measurable environmental impacts. The diesel generators will remain operable and, with the proposed compensatory measures, capable of performing their function. Consequently, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological impacts associated with the proposed exemption.

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With regard to potential non-radiological impacts, the proposed exemption involves features located entirely within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. It does not affect non-radiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant non-radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed exemption.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action:

Since the Commission has concluded there is no measurable environmental impacts associated with the proposed exemption, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impact need not be evaluated. The principal alternative to the exemption would be to require literal compliance with GDC-17. Such action would not enhance the protection of the environment, and would result in unjustified costs to the licensee as the plant could not restart from its current refueling outage.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action does not involve the use of 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, we conclude 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 exemption.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for exemption dated December 14, 1987, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., and at the Crystal River Public Library, 668 N.W., First Avenue, Crystal River, Florida 32629.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland, this 15th day of December, 1987.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



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