

May 31, 1989

Docket No. 50-302

Mr. W. S. Wilgus  
Vice President, Nuclear Operations  
Florida Power Corporation  
ATTN: Manager, Nuclear Operations  
Licensing  
P. O. Box 219-NA-2I  
Crystal River, Florida 32629

Dear Mr. Wilgus:

SUBJECT: CRYSTAL RIVER UNIT 3 - ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF EXEMPTION  
REQUEST FROM 10 CFR PART 50, APPENDIX A, GENERAL DESIGN  
CRITERION-4

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 16, 1988, which requested an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix A, General Design Criterion-4, with regard to high energy line breaks.

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

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P PNU

Enclosure:  
As stated

cc w/enclosure:  
See next page

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[CR-3 ENV ASSESSMENT]

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Mr. W. S. Wilgus  
Florida Power Corporation

Crystal River Unit No. 3 Nuclear  
Generating Plant

cc:

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State of Florida  
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Attorney General  
Department of Legal Affairs  
The Capitol  
Tallahassee, Florida 32304

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 an exemption from the requirements of Appendix A to 10 CFR Part 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-4 (GDC-4) for the Crystal River Unit 3 Nuclear Generating Plant with regard to high energy line breaks.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed exemption is needed in order to permit plant operation until the end of next scheduled refueling outage (Refuel 7).

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The proposed exemption does not involve any measurable environmental impacts during normal operation since plant configuration and operation are not changed. The likelihood of a high energy line break which would affect equipment required to operate to avoid radiological impact is low. Thus, the proposed exemption 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 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 concluded that there are 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-4. Such action would not enhance the protection of the environment, and would result in very high costs to the licensee as the plant could not restart from its current outage or continue to operate.

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.

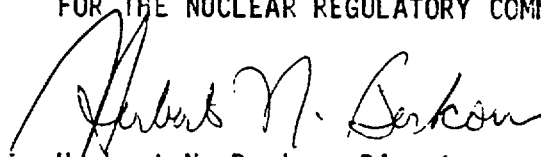
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, 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 16, 1988, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. and at the Crystal River Public Library, 668 N.W., First Avenue, Crystal River, Florida 32629.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 31st day of May, 1989.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Herbert N. Berkow".

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