



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

February 24, 1992

OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRMAN

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE FILE

FROM: *James W. Johnson*  
James W. Johnson, Technical Assistant  
Office of The Chairman

SUBJECT: VISIT - ALLEN KEESLER, CEO, FLORIDA POWER  
CORPORATION

On February 20, 1992, Mr. Allen Keesler, CEO, Florida Power Corporation (FPC), met with Dr. Selin and Dr. Johnson. While the visit was expected to be a general courtesy call, Mr. Keesler brought up and discussed his dissatisfaction with DOE's progress in resolving issues associated with the high level waste repository. Mr. Keesler also informed the Chairman of his planned recommendation to industry officials to focus appropriate attention to this area.

Mr. Keesler indicated his concerns about the lack of progress being made on the waste disposal problem. He did not think that DOE could deliver on nuclear waste activities as scheduled. This is in spite of the contractual arrangements and the large number of industry dollars being contributed to the Nuclear Waste Fund. The Chairman inquired about the reasons or basis for his statements regarding DOE's ability to perform nuclear waste activities as scheduled. Mr. Keesler indicated that DOE was too large, too bureaucratic, and that the process was too cumbersome.

Mr. Keesler indicated to the Chairman that he planned to recommend to the industry a plan in which PUCs would stop sending money to the nuclear waste fund in an effort to focus attention on DOE's lack of timelessness on nuclear waste activities.

The Chairman stated that he was not in a position to comment on Mr. Keesler's planned recommendation to the industry but indicated that he had been impressed by what he had seen during a visit at Yucca mountain. The Chairman also emphasized the importance of public involvement, particularly by the State of Nevada as an affected party, in solving the high level waste disposal problem and that this solution was critical for both current operating plants and the future of nuclear power. There was a brief discussion about on-site storage and MRS.

The Chairman's key points made during the meeting were: 1) the high NRC interest in a solution to the waste disposal problem, 2)

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the NRC's regulatory responsibility for the licensing of a high level waste repository, 3) his views on the progress that is being made by DOE at the Yucca mountain site in Nevada.

The Chairman informed Mr. Keesler that he had not known in advance the specific issues that he wanted to discuss during the meeting; and that he (the Chairman) would have invited Senator Reid or a representative to the meeting had he known the topic in advance; and suggested to Mr. Keesler that it would be appropriate if he or a Florida Power Corporation Washington representative would call Senator Reid's office and inform him of the meeting.

- cc: Comrs
- OGC
- EDO
- OPA
- SECY
- PDR

Note: Circulated at the request of the Chairman's Office