



December 22, 2004

L-2004-291
10 CFR 50.4
10 CFR 50.36

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

Re: St. Lucie Unit 1
Docket No. 50-335
Date of Event: November 30, 2004
Technical Specification Special Report
Inoperable Containment Sump Wide Range Level Channel B

The attached special report is being submitted pursuant to the requirements of St. Lucie Unit 1 Technical Specification 3.3.3.8, Action 4, and Technical Specification 6.9.2. This report provides notification that channel "B" of the containment sump wide range level instrument is inoperable.

As described in the attached special report, repair of the inoperable containment sump wide range level instrument can not be performed at power, and the instrument will be repaired at the next outage of sufficient duration, but no later than the next refueling outage.

Please contact us if there any questions on this information.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'WJ', is written over a horizontal line.

William Jefferson, Jr.
Vice President
St. Lucie Plant

WJ/KWF

Attachment

IE22

SPECIAL REPORT

1. TITLE

St. Lucie Unit 1 Inoperable Containment Sump Wide Range Level Channel B.

2. EVENT DESCRIPTION

On November 30, 2004, with St. Lucie Unit 1 in Mode 1, the channel B of containment sump wide range level signal trended slightly high with this channel being placed out of service. St. Lucie Unit 1 Technical Specification (TS) 3.3.3.8 ACTION 4 was entered, which states:

ACTION 4 - With the number of OPERABLE Channels one less than the Total Number of Channels shown in Table 3.3-11, either restore the inoperable channel to OPERABLE status within 7 days if repairs are feasible without shutting down or prepare and submit a Special Report to the Commission pursuant to the specification 6.9.2 within 30 days following the event outlining the action taken, the cause of the inoperability and the plans and schedule for restoring to OPERABLE status.

A containment sump wide range level channel utilizes three level probes. St. Lucie Unit 1 TS 4.3.3.8 requires each channel be demonstrated operable by performing both a Channel Check and a Channel Calibration.

3. CAUSE OF THE EVENT

Plant engineers and maintenance personnel investigated and evaluated this channel's level signal and concluded that all portions of the instrument loop outside of containment is working correctly. The instrument loop malfunction is definitely located inside containment, most likely with the level probes. High radiation levels in this area when operating preclude any further troubleshooting, and the precise problem will be located when access to containment is achieved.

4. ACTION TAKEN

St Lucie Unit 1 TS 3.3.3.8 ACTION 4 was entered on November 30, 2004, when the containment sump wide range level channel B failed.

FPL troubleshooting determined that the failed containment sump wide range level channel B could not be repaired at power.

The Unit 1 containment sump wide range level channel B will be investigated and returned to service at the next refueling outage or the next outage that is long enough to accommodate this work. Work order (WO) 34021410 has been issued to track this action.

5. SCHEDULE FOR RESTORING SYSTEM

The Unit 1 containment sump wide range level channel B will be returned to service at the next outage of sufficient duration, and no later than the end of the next refueling outage (SL1-20).