

June 10, 2005

LICENSEE: Florida Power and Light Company  
FACILITY: St. Lucie Plant, Unit 2  
SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MAY 18, 2005, PUBLIC MEETING WITH FLORIDA POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY REGARDING PROPOSED INCREASE IN ST. LUCIE UNIT 2 STEAM GENERATOR TUBE PLUGGING LIMIT (TAC NO. MC6903)

On May 18, 2005, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff met with representatives of the Florida Power and Light Company (FPL) and its contractors (Westinghouse and APTECH) at NRC Headquarters in Rockville, Maryland. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss a proposed license amendment to increase the St. Lucie Unit 2 steam generator tube plugging limit. FPL requested the meeting, which was open to the public as stated in the meeting notice dated May 5, 2005 (ML051240502). There were no members of the public present. Enclosure 1 is a list of attendees and Enclosure 2 is a copy of the FPL viewgraphs presented during the meeting.

The licensee's representatives provided a history of tube plugging in the St. Lucie Unit 2 steam generators, which indicated that the current 30-percent tube plugging limit could be exceeded in the spring 2006 outage. Replacement steam generators have been ordered but will not be available until 2007. The NRC staff is currently reviewing an FPL amendment request for tube sleeving, which will be used in conjunction with tube plugging to maintain the total number of tubes plugged below the limit, if feasible. However, as a contingency, FPL plans to submit a request to increase the tube plugging limit to 42 percent, with a resultant derating to 89 percent power. Due to the time needed to complete the supporting analyses, the amendment request will not be submitted until November 2005 and the need date is April 2006. The NRC stated that this only provided approximately 5 months for review during a period that included several holidays, which might limit available resources. Anything FPL can do to accelerate the submittal would improve the chances of timely completion of review, but success would ultimately depend on the technical quality of the FPL submittal. FPL stated that the request would closely model the previously approved amendment request to increase the plugging limit to 30 percent, which should facilitate the review.

The FPL representatives outlined the scope of the proposed amendment and requested staff feedback. The staff indicated that the approach was appropriate and the review would probably focus heavily on certain transient analyses, such as steam generator tube rupture, asymmetric steam generator transients, and decreases in reactor coolant flow and inventory. The review could be facilitated if the discussion of transient analyses included a table or brief summary of the changes from the previous analyses. The staff also advised FPL to ensure that bounding conditions and correlations used in the analysis models remained valid for the new analyses.

The proposed amendment request will include a reduction in the minimum allowable reactor coolant flow. If the measured reactor coolant flow after tube plugging decreases below the current minimum flow, the power level will be reduced to 89 percent, which correlates to

42-percent tube plugging. There will be no attempt to optimize power between the 30-percent and 42-percent tube plugging, which should simplify the review. FPL proposes to impose the power reduction as a Technical Specification (TS) Limiting Condition for Operation under TS 3.2.5, "DNB [Departure from Nucleate Boiling] Parameters," with no change to the definition of rated thermal power. The NRC staff indicated that it would evaluate whether this could be done without a change to the license or TS definition of rated thermal power.

The NRC staff stated that the meeting was beneficial in gaining an understanding of the proposed action and thanked FPL for providing early notification of its plans. FPL suggested another meeting in July or August to discuss the status of the proposed amendment and seek additional feedback from the staff. The staff agreed and the Project Manager will make the necessary arrangements.

Please direct any inquiries regarding this meeting to Brendan T. Moroney at (301) 415-3974 or btm3@nrc.org.

*/RA/*

Brendan T. Moroney, Project Manager, Section 2  
Project Directorate II  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-389

Enclosures: 1. List of attendees  
2. Licensee handouts

cc w/encls: See next page

**ATTENDANCE LIST  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION STAFF MEETING  
WITH FLORIDA POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY  
AT NRC HEADQUARTERS  
MAY 18, 2005**

NRC

E. Hackett  
M. Marshall  
B. Moroney  
J. Arroyo  
K. Karwoski  
P. Klein  
L. Miller  
S. Sun  
A. Drozd  
M. Blumberg

FPL

R. Kundalkar  
C. Villard  
R. Gil  
G. Madden  
G. Boyers  
J. Kabadi  
J. Garcia

FPL Consultants

J. Akers, Westinghouse  
D. Huegel, Westinghouse  
W. Gahwiller, Westinghouse  
K. Garner, Westinghouse  
B. Woodman, APTECH

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