



Florida Power & Light Company, 6501 S. Ocean Drive, Jensen Beach, FL 34957

July 14, 2006

L-2006-179
10 CFR 50.36b
EPP 5.4.2

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Washington, D. C. 20555

Re: St. Lucie Units 1 and 2
Docket Nos. 50-335 and 50-389
Environmental Protection Plan Report
Date of Event: June 23, 2006
Unusual or Important Environmental Event – Manatee

The attached report is being submitted pursuant to the requirements of Section 5.4.2 of the St. Lucie Units 1 and 2 Environmental Protection Plans to provide a description of a reportable capture of a juvenile manatee in the intake canal at the St. Lucie Plant.

Very truly yours,


Gordon L. Johnston
Vice President
St. Lucie Plant

GLJ/KWF

Attachment

JE23

EVENT DESCRIPTION

At approximately 0800 hours on June 23, 2006 a juvenile manatee (*Trichechus manatus latirostris*) was discovered in the St. Lucie Plant intake canal. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission (FWCC) was notified at 0815 hours. Two representatives from the FWCC arrived at the intake canal of the St. Lucie Plant at approximately 0945 hours. Retrieval activities commenced immediately and were directed by the two representatives from the FWCC with assistance from the FP&L turtle research biologists as well as other FP&L personnel.

A net was deployed in the Northeast corner of the intake canal. After several failed attempts to lure the manatee in to the Northeast corner, it finally entered the Northeast corner of the intake canal on its own accord, and was subsequently captured with the net at approximately 1055 hours. The manatee was removed from the intake canal, inspected, measured, passive integrated transponder (PIT) tagged, and photographed. During entrainment and capture activities the manatee appeared to have sustained a few minor scratches as indicated by the FWCC report RSE0611 dated June 26, 2006. By all indications the manatee appeared to be in good health. After the inspection the manatee was transported across FP&L property and safely released into the Indian River at approximately 1140 hours.

Based on a conversation with the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission that took place on the week of June 26, 2006, a section seven consultation is not required for this event.

CAUSE OF THE EVENT

The temporary entrainment of the juvenile manatee in the intake canal system was caused when the manatee entered the offshore intake piping structure and was caught by the flow of seawater through the plant's intake pipes. The intake pipe structure terminates at a common intake canal that is approximately 300 feet wide and 25 feet deep. The manatee was observed in the intake canal by the sea turtle research biologists.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

The manatee was removed from the intake canal under the direction of the FWCC, and returned to the Indian River with out injury.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS TO PRECLUDE REPATITION OF THE EVENT

Over the history of operation of the St. Lucie Plant there have been a total of 6 manatee captures including the one on June 23, 2006. The design of the intake plant structures are permanent, therefore these structures are not subject to manipulation or modification. Staff biologists will continue to monitor the intake canal for manatees as well as other biota so as to respond to any future entrainments as soon as possible.

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AGENCIES NOTIFIED

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission was contacted by FP&L on 6/23/2006.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was contacted by FP&L on 6/23/06.

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission was notified of the event on 6/23/06 and again on the week of June 26, 2006