



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

December 16, 2008

L-2008-260
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: November 28, 2008
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 manatee in the intake canal at the St. Lucie Plant.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eric S. Katzman".

Eric S. Katzman
Licensing Manager
St. Lucie Plant

ESK/CAA

Attachment

IE23
HRR

EVENT DESCRIPTION

At approximately 0740 hours on November 28, 2008, a manatee (*Trichechus Manatus*) was discovered in the St. Lucie Plant intake water cooling canal. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWCC) was notified of the manatee entrainment at 0752 hours. FWC personnel arrived on plant property at approximately 1000 hours to support and direct capture activities.

The manatee was able to avoid the initial capture effort and remained out of reach from FWC personnel the remainder of the day. A fresh water source and lettuce were provided for the manatee in the N.E. section of the intake canal to help alleviate stress on the animal. The manatee was successful in avoiding capture for three days. At approximately 1525 hours on December 1, 2008, the manatee was netted, and removed from the plant intake canal.

Upon removal from the plant intake canal the manatee was tagged, measured, inspected, and determined to be in good condition. Several superficial scrapes from entrainment and capture activities were noted. The manatee was transported to the Indian River and released at Big Mud Creek at 1646 hours.

CAUSE OF THE EVENT

The temporary entrainment of the manatee occurred when the manatee entered the plant's offshore intake cooling water piping, and was swept into the plant cooling water canal by the flow of seawater through the plant's intake water system. The intake pipe structure terminates at the intake canal in an area that is approximately 300 feet wide, 25 feet deep, and 656 feet long.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

The manatee was removed from the plant intake canal under the direction and guidance of the FWC, and returned to the Indian River in good health on December 1, 2008.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS TO PRECLUDE REPETITION OF THE EVENT

The design of the plant intake structures including the associated velocity caps are permanent structures, therefore these structures are not subject to casual manipulation or modification. However, Florida Power and Light (FPL) is undergoing a Section 7 consultation with the NRC, FWC, and the National Marine Fisheries Service with a resulting Biological Opinion that may require action to reduce entrainment of marine life.

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AGENCIES NOTIFIED

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission was contacted by FPL on November 28, 2008.

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission was notified on November 28, 2008.