



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

August 31, 2012

Mr. Mano Nazar  
Executive Vice President and  
Chief Nuclear Officer  
Florida Power and Light Company  
P.O. Box 14000  
Juno Beach, Florida 33408-0420

SUBJECT: SEABROOK STATION, POINT BEACH NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2,  
SAINT LUCIE, UNITS 1 AND 2, AND TURKEY POINT, UNITS 3 AND 4 –  
ACKNOWLEDGMENT LETTER REGARDING STRAINER FIBER BYPASS  
TEST PROTOCOL ASSOCIATED WITH GENERIC LETTER 2004-02 (TAC  
NOS. MC4716, MC4705, MC4706, MC4710, MC4711, MC4725, AND MC4726)

Dear Mr. Nazar:

By letter dated March 3, 2012 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML12066A035), Florida Power & Light Company (FPL) and NextEra Energy Resources, LLC (NextEra) submitted a draft proposed guideline titled, "Strainer Fiber Bypass Test Protocol," for the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's review. The protocol was developed to provide a consistent method for testing emergency core cooling system (ECCS) recirculation strainer fiber bypass for use by FPL and NextEra, and provides a consistent and uniform set of considerations for the performance of strainer bypass testing that would later be incorporated into a vendor specific strainer test plan. The NRC reviewed the March 3, 2012, document and provided the licensee with comments and a markup of the draft proposed test protocol (ADAMS Accession No. ML12101A349). The licensee incorporated the NRC staff comments and provided a revised protocol on August 10, 2012 (ADAMS Accession No. ML12228A330). The NRC staff reviewed this revised protocol and does not have any additional comments at this time.

The intent of this test is to measure the amount of fibrous debris that bypasses or passes through an ECCS Sump Strainer. The fibrous material used in the testing is representative of debris that could be generated during a loss-of-coolant accident. The results of the testing will be used to quantify the amount of debris that could bypass a plant strainer and to assist in evaluation of the response of equipment downstream of the strainer. The NRC staff believes that the test will produce results that will be realistic or conservative when compared to actual plant strainer bypass. Also, the NRC staff agrees that the test protocol can be used to help quantify strainer bypass for these purposes. However, the test results are somewhat dependent on human actions not fully controlled by the test plan and evaluations of the test results after the testing is complete. Therefore, while the NRC staff does not have any questions or additional comments regarding the strainer fiber bypass test protocol, dated August 10, 2012, the NRC staff does not endorse this test protocol.

M. Nazar

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The NRC staff may observe strainer bypass testing and review its evaluation and application as part of its overall review of Generic Letter 2004-02, "Potential Impact of Debris Blockage on Emergency Recirculation during Design Basis Accidents at Pressurized-Water Reactors."

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-1447.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Farideh E. Saba". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Farideh E. Saba, Senior Project Manager  
Plant Licensing Branch II-2  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-335, 50-389, 50-443,  
50-266, 50-301, 50-250,  
and 50-251

cc: Distribution via Listserv

M. Nazar

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*/ra/*

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