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1/16/79

January 16, 1979

Michael C. Farrar, Esq., Chairman
Atomic Safety & Licensing Appeal Board
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

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Atomic Safety & Licensing Appeal Board
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

In the Matter of
FLORIDA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY
(St. Lucie Nuclear Power Plant, Unit 2)
Docket No. 50-389

Gentlemen:

Enclosed for the information of the parties is a copy of SAND77-1927 entitled, "Transport of Radionuclides in Urban Environs: Working Draft Assessment" (WDA). This is a preliminary report in the development by the NRC of a Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) on transportation of radionuclides in urban environs. The general objectives of the GEIS are (1) to identify any unacceptable risk or hazard to public health and safety and (2) to identify promising alternatives whereby current levels of safety may be improved further. The study is not intended, by itself, to support any specific rulemaking action or other regulatory activity.

Among the topics discussed in the WDA are: (1) sabotage of spent fuel casks, discussed in Chapter 6, resulting in severe consequences (thousands of deaths, billions of dollars in damage) and (2) consequences of severe accidents in urban areas resulting in costs exceeding \$560 million.

Also enclosed for the information of the parties are copies of Commission Information Reports, SECY-78-311, dated June 14, 1978 and SECY-78-311A^{1/} dated November 9, 1978. These information Reports indicate to the Commission the Staff's view of the impact of the WDA on current regulatory policy. As can be seen from these Commission papers, the NRC Staff has recommended that no immediate regulatory action is necessary to protect spent fuel shipment at this time.

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^{1/} Only the unclassified portions of SECY-78-311A have been forwarded. In addition, SECY-78-311A has been supplemented by a "Correction Notice" of November 27, 1978. A copy of this notice is also enclosed.

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REPORT

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Copies of the enclosed documents have been furnished separately to all Licensing and Appeal Board Panel Members for their use.

Sincerely,

William D. Paton
Counsel for NRC Staff

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Atomic Safety & Licensing Board Panel
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