

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



#UG 1 6 1979

Mr. Laurence M. Rich 6206 Hidden Pines Road Fort Pierce, Florida 33450

Dear Mr. Rich:

On May 11, 1979, you sent a letter on behalf of several other operators at the St. Lucie Nuclear Power Plant requesting that an operators tour of duty be limited to a maximum of twelve hours with a twelve hour rest period prior to the next tour. You also alleged that operators "are being routinely required to work up to sixteen (16) continuous hours".

The results of the inquiry by the Office of Inspection and Enforcement into this matter are discussed in the enclosed letter which was sent to Senators Stone and Chiles. The inquiry did not find that 16 hour shifts were being routinely scheduled at the St. Lucie plant.

Although our inquiry does not indicate that further action by the NRC is warranted at this time at St. Lucie, we are taking a further look at the safety-related aspect of working extended hours to ascertain whether specific action is required to limit the working hours of operators. We appreciate your concern in this matter.

Sincerely,

Victor Stellar Ira

Director

Office of Inspection and Enforcement

Enclosure: Letter to Senator Stone dated August 1, 1979

ACRS

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