



November 1, 1979
L-79-315

NOV 7 10:55 AM '79

Mr. J. P. O'Reilly, Director, Region II
Office of Inspection & Enforcement
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
101 Marietta Street, Suite 3100
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

Re: RII:NE
50-389/79-14

Florida Power & Light Company has reviewed the subject inspection report and our response is attached. There is no proprietary information contained in the report.

Very truly yours,

Robert E. Uhrig
Robert E. Uhrig
Vice President
Advanced Systems & Technology

REU/MV/ah
Attachment

cc: T. E. Burdette
Harold F. Reis, Esquire

7912110199

790143

ATTACHMENT

RII:NE
50-389/79-14

INFRACTION Control of Welding Electrodes

As required by Criterion V of Appendix B to 10 CFR 50, and implemented by Florida Power and Light Company Topical, FPL TQAR 1-76A, Section 5, paragraph 5.1 specifies in part that activities affecting quality shall be accomplished in accordance with instructions, procedures or drawings.

Paragraph NB2440, Section III of the ASME Code states in part that precautions shall be taken to minimize moisture absorption by...coated electrodes. Site procedure SQP-8, paragraph 8.2.9 states in part that, "In the field, portable rod ovens shall be used for covered electrodes."

Contrary to the above, on September 13, 1979, inside the reactor building, several low-hydrogen 7018 coated electrodes were observed stored in a welder's open bucket during raining weather conditions, causing them to get wet; also, inside the auxiliary building several unused coated weld electrodes were observed scattered on the floor near the legs of a safety injection pump support.

RESPONSE The following corrective actions have been taken to resolve the infraction.

1. Regarding the weld rod near the base of the safety injection pump supports

The subject rod was gathered and disposed of and not used in fabrication.

The requirements for control and moisture protection of weld rod have been reiterated to supervision and craft personnel. QA surveillance of weld rod control will continue on a regular basis to ensure that procedures are implemented.

2. Regarding the electrodes wetted by rain

As noted in the report, the wetted weld rod was destroyed and not used in fabrication.

SQP-8, Paragraph 8.2.7 permits exposure of E 7018 electrodes for a period of up to four hours. The welder had removed a small amount of electrodes from his oven for immediate use and placed these electrodes in a bucket marked by the welder's symbol. However, additional material was required and the foreman sent the welder to stores to requisition the material. At this point, the rain wet the electrodes and delayed the welder's return. (This is the

incident observed by the Inspector.) Upon return, the welder would have been required to destroy and dispose of the wetted electrodes per SQP-8, Paragraph 8.2.7.1.

As required by the Code, site procedure SQP-8 does control moisture absorption by requiring storage in ovens and placing time limits on ambient exposure of electrodes. In addition, the procedure provides for disposal or baking of electrodes if electrodes are wetted or ambient exposure limits are inadvertently exceeded.

To preclude further instances of this type, welders have been cautioned that electrodes removed from ovens should not be left unattended during rainy periods.