



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

January 6, 1989

Docket Nos. 50-335
and 50-389

Mr. W. F. Conway
Senior Vice President-Nuclear
Nuclear Energy Department
Florida Power and Light Company
Post Office Box 14000
Juno Beach, Florida 33408-0420

Dear Mr. Conway:

SUBJECT: ST. LUCIE UNITS 1 AND 2 - STAFF'S ASSESSMENT OF WCAP-11525 -
PROBABILISTIC EVALUATION OF REDUCTION IN TURBINE VALVE TEST FREQUENCY

Westinghouse has prepared a topical report, WCAP-11525, entitled "Probabilistic Evaluation of Reduction in Turbine Valve Test Frequency," June 1987, in support of several owners of Westinghouse nuclear steam turbines. The nuclear power plants represented by this study currently have Technical Specifications or other requirements that call for weekly or monthly turbine valve testing. The St. Lucie Plant units were included in this study. The topical report was submitted for the staff's review with the objective of relaxing the turbine valve test frequency requirements.

The staff has completed its review of WCAP-11525 and concludes in the enclosed evaluation that the analyses have accounted for plant-specific design variations and failure rates, common cause failures, and human errors. The staff concludes also that in preparing WCAP-11525, Westinghouse has used acceptable methodology and assumptions. Therefore, the subject report is acceptable as a methodology reference. The topical report may be used to enable licensees to recalculate the missile ejection probabilities for their plants to account for significant changes in valve failures, control and trip system anomalies, turbine rotor inspection intervals, or any other factors which may affect the potential for overspeed or missile generation.

As discussed in Section D of the enclosed staff's evaluation, the failure data used to calculate the missile ejection probabilities in WCAP-11525 is representative of all plants listed in that report with the exception of St. Lucie Units 1 and 2 and Shearon Harris. This is due to recent experience with failure of valves similar to those found in the above three units.

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Mr. W. F. Conway

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Should you wish to use WCAP-11525 in support of your future submittals for licensing actions for the St. Lucie Plant, such submittals should be supported also by evidence that the plant failure data used in the subject report is representative of the St. Lucie Plant. Alternately, a reanalysis should be submitted. Such reanalysis may use the methodology of WCAP-11525.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Jan A. Norris, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate II-2
Division of Reactor Projects-I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure: As stated

cc w/enclosure:
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Mr. W. F. Conway
Florida Power & Light Company

St. Lucie Plant

cc:

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