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SUBJECT: Responds to 900912 request for addl info re proposed license amend concerning axial shape index limits expansion.

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U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

Gentlemen:

Re: St. Lucie Unit 1
Docket 50-335
Additional Information on Proposed License Amendment
Axial Shape Index Limits Expansion (TAC No. 76173)

On September 12, 1990 a conference call was held between Florida Power and Light (FPL) and the NRC to discuss a question the NRC Staff Reviewer had pertaining to the St. Lucie Unit 1 proposed license amendment entitled, "Axial Shape Index Limits Expansion".

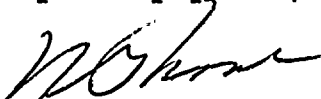
This letter documents FPL's response to the question asked during this call.

Question: If the original Safety Analysis had margin to widen the ASI tents, why is FPL just now requesting this change?

Answer: The original Safety Analysis for St. Lucie Unit 1 was performed by Combustion Engineering (CE) using deterministic methods. During the 1980's FPL changed the fuel vendor for St. Lucie Unit 1 from CE to Advanced Nuclear Fuels. As part of this change in fuel vendor, most of the FSAR safety analysis were reanalyzed using the statistical setpoint methodology. This methodology opened up additional safety margin thus allowing FPL to propose a technical specification change to achieve greater operational flexibility at lower power levels.

Should you have any questions, please contact us.

Very truly yours,

Jm 
D. A. Sager
Vice President
St. Lucie Plant

DAS:JWH:kw

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cc: Stewart D. Ebnetter, Regional Administrator, Region II, USNRC
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