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FACIL: 50-335 St. Lucie Plant, Unit 1, Florida Power & Light Co. 05000335
AUTH. NAME AUTHOR AFFILIATION
SAGER, D.A. Florida Power & Light Co.
RECIP. NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
 Document Control Branch (Document Control Desk)

SUBJECT: NPDES noncompliance notification: on 930503, sewage treatment plant effluent tested & found to have pH value of 3.6 std units. Util believes that acidic solution mistakenly poured down plant drain. Sodium carbonate added to sys.

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TITLE: Environmental Event Report (per Tech Specs)

NOTES:

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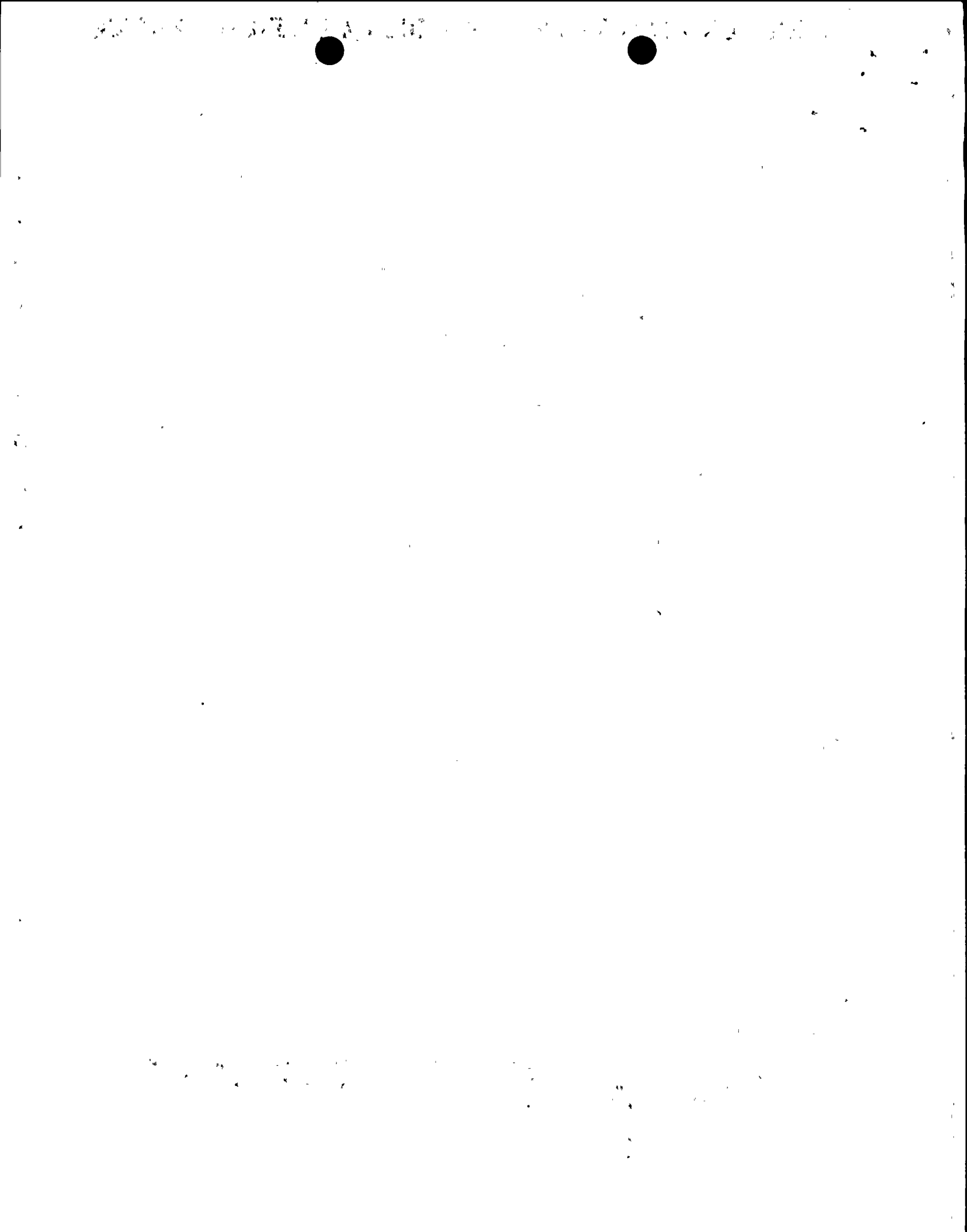
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July 6, 1993

L-93-134
10 CFR 50.36b
10 CFR 50.4
EPP 3.2.1

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

Re: St. Lucie Unit 1
Docket Nos. 50-335
Deviation of the NPDES Permit

On May 3, 1993, the effluent pH of the Unit 1 Sewage Treatment Plant was observed to be 3.60 standard units which is below the 6.0 standard units required by the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit. This deviation is being reported to the Environmental Protection Agency in the Monthly Discharge Monitoring Report. A copy of the event is attached and is being sent pursuant to Section 3.2.1 of the St. Lucie Unit 1 Environmental Protection Plan.

Should you have any questions on this information, please contact us.

Very truly yours,

D. A. Sager
Vice President
St. Lucie Plant

DAS:JJB:kw

cc: Stewart D. Ebnetter, Regional Administrator, Region II, USNRC
Senior Resident Inspector, USNRC, St. Lucie Plant

Attachment

DAS/PSL #919-93

120061
9307140239 930706
PDR ADDCK 05000335
S PDR

an FPL Group company

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Florida Power & Light Company - St. Lucie Plant
NPDES Permit No. FL0002208
Outfall Serial Number: 004 - 1
Monitoring Period: May 1 - May 31, 1993

On Monday, May 3, 1993, at 8:30 AM, the St. Lucie Plant Unit # 1 Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) effluent was tested and found to have a pH value of 3.6 Standard Units (SU).

FPL believes that an acidic solution was mistakenly poured down a plant drain causing the depressed pH value in the STP effluent. A sample, previously collected on Friday, April 30, 1993, at 8:30 AM was within the specified limit for pH. Therefore, the event appears to have occurred over the weekend.

Upon discovering the STP effluent situation, corrective action was initiated immediately by adding sodium carbonate to the system. By 9:25 AM the effluent pH had returned within permit limits of 6.0 to 9.0 SU. During this event, flow in the intake/discharge canal, which receives the STP effluent, was 500,00 gallons per minute. Therefore, no adverse effect on the environment was observed or is expected.

Equipment has been purchased to continuously monitor the influent pH to the STP. When installed, this type of excursion can be avoided by taking corrective action to neutralize the system before the pH of the effluent from the STP is outside the effluent limits. The source of this pH excursion has been investigated and will be addressed through the plant's chemical control program. Corrective action has included memos written to all departments who have been issued acids. These departments were reminded of the proper methods for disposal of acidic solutions.