



November 18, 1994

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED
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Ms. Karen Buerki
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region IV
WMD - Compliance
345 Courtland Street, N.E.
Atlanta, GA 30365

RE: FPL - ST. LUCIE PLANT
NPDES PERMIT NO. FL0002208
REPORT OF BYPASS EVENTS

Dear Ms. Buerki:

This correspondence is a follow-up to a verbal notification from Ron Hix, Environmental Affairs Department, on Wednesday, November 16, 1994, for two bypass events which occurred at Florida Power & Light Company's St. Lucie Plant, NPDES Permit No. FL0002208. Both were related to Tropical Storm Gordon, which was responsible for over eight inches of rainfall at the plant site in a four day period. Below please find descriptions of these two events:

Breach of Mangrove Impoundment Wall (Serial No. 006C):

Stormwater from the east parking lot escaped underneath The Mangrove Impoundment wall (Serial No. 006C) to the Mangrove Impoundment 008E during the early morning of November 16, 1994. The heavy rainfall which occurred during this time period, placed as much as three million gallons of untreated parking lot runoff into the impoundment. No significant amount of suspended solids or oil sheen was noted in the impoundment following the event, indicating that there were no significant environmental effects due to the lack of stormwater treatment. FP&L engineering is presently examining the failure mode for this event and will design an appropriate modification. Temporary repairs are expected to be complete by November 30, 1994. Permanent repairs, based on design modifications, will be implemented after that date.

As per Part II-D.8., of the site's NPDES permit; Region IV, USEPA was verbally notified of the event at approximately 2:00 P.M. November 16, via FPL Environmental Affairs Department. This letter serves as the required written submission. Details for the permanent repair will be transmitted along with the November Discharge Monitoring Report.

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Request for Emergency Bypass from the Site Percolation Pond System:

Due to the heavy rainfall described above, site percolation pond levels increased to where plant equipment could be damaged. To alleviate this condition, the St. Lucie Plant requested permission to bypass the percolation pond system to the intake canal as per NPDES Permit FL0002208 Part II-B.3. This request was made verbally, via Environmental Affairs Department, at approximately 2:00 P.M. November 16, and approved by Region IV USEPA. It is not anticipated that this bypass will have any significant environmental affect. Discharge quantity, duration, daily pH, total suspended solids, oil and grease, as well as iron and copper (composite) will be reported from this event along with the November Discharge Monitoring Report. The unusual amount of rainfall experienced at the site necessitated this bypass. Recently implemented stormwater modifications should preclude the need for such bypasses under normal weather conditions.

If you should have any questions concerning either of the above events, please contact Nick Whiting at (407) 465-3550 ext. 3392. You can also contact Ron Hix at (407) 625-7605.

Sincerely,


L. K. Heffelfinger
Supervisor
Protection Services

cc: Terry Davis - DEP, Port St. Lucie



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