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SUBJECT: Provides initial response to NRC GL 97-01, "Degradation of Control Rod Drive Mechanism Nozzle & Other Vessel Closure Head Penetrations."

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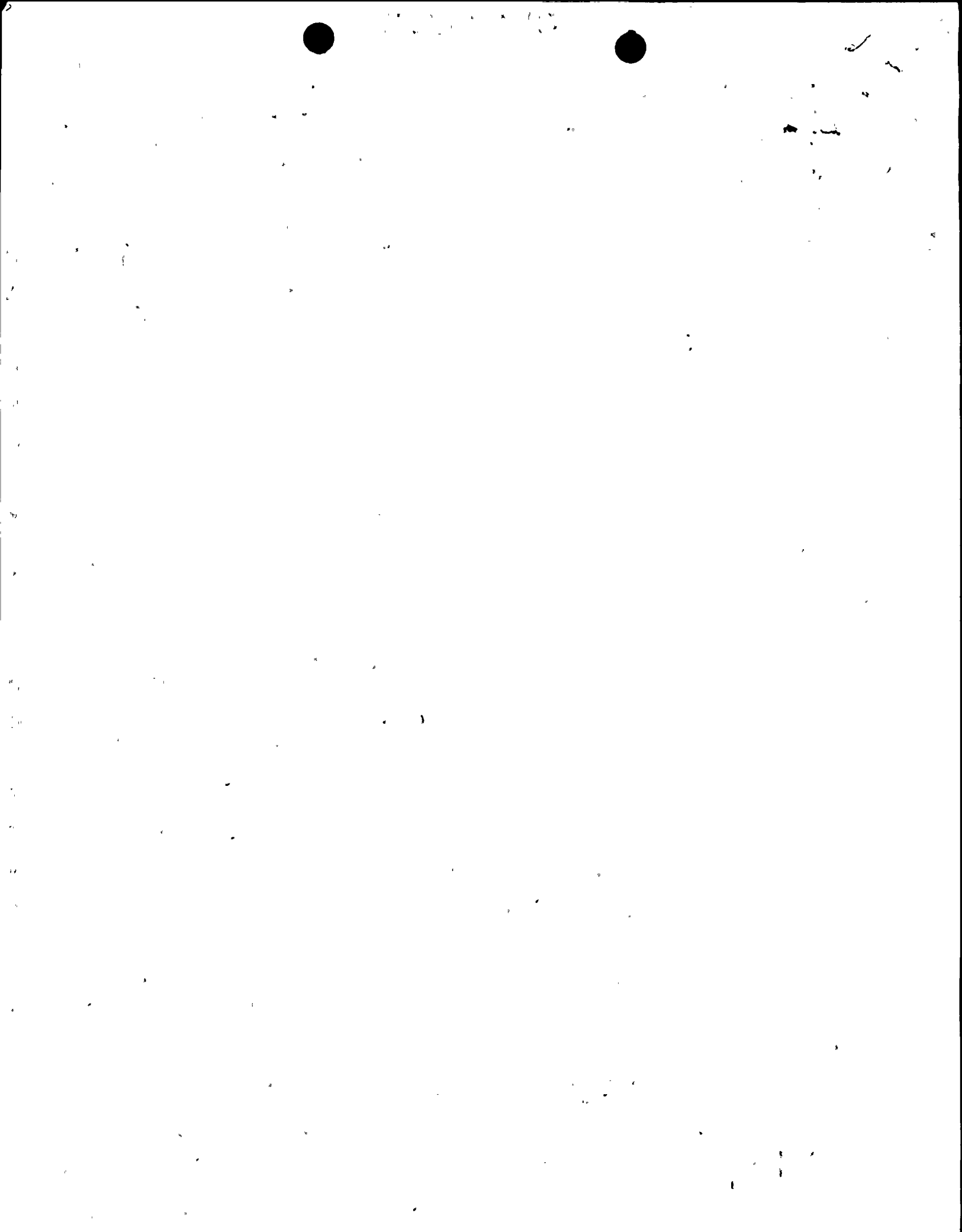
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April 25, 1997

L-97-117
10 CFR 50.4
10 CFR 50.54 (f)

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

RE: St. Lucie Units 1 and 2
Docket Nos. 50-335 and 50-389
Generic Letter 97-01 - Initial Response

The purpose of this letter is to provide the initial Florida Power & Light Company (FPL) response to NRC Generic Letter (GL) 97-01, *Degradation of Control Rod Drive Mechanism Nozzle and Other Vessel Closure Head Penetrations*, for St. Lucie Units 1 and 2. Within 30 days of the date of the GL, each addressee is required to submit a written response indicating: (1) whether or not the requested information will be submitted and (2) whether or not the requested information will be submitted within the requested time period.

As discussed in the GL, the industry has been working on this issue with the NRC since 1991 through the PWR owners groups, the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), and the Nuclear Utility Management and Resource Council (NUMARC), now the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI). FPL is continuing to participate with the industry through the NEI task force and the Combustion Engineering Owners Group to evaluate the NRC's request and develop information for responding to the GL. FPL plans to utilize information from this industry effort and will submit a written response by July 30, 1997, relative to items 1 and 2 of the Requested Information section of the GL. However, all of the results from the industry effort may not be available within the 120 days. If the schedule needs to be revised from that requested by the GL, FPL will provide appropriate notification to the NRC.

This information is provided pursuant to the requirements of Section 182a of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, and 10 CFR 50.54(f). Please contact us if there are any questions about this submittal.

Very truly yours,

J. A. Stall
Vice President
St. Lucie Plant

JAS/HNP

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PDR ADDCK 05000335
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cc: Regional Administrator, Region II, USNRC
Senior Resident Inspector, USNRC, St. Lucie Plant



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