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50-389 St. Lucie Plant, Unit 2, Florida Power & Light Co. 05000389
AUTH. NAME AUTHOR AFFILIATION
REYES, L.A. Region 2 (Post 820201)
RECIP. NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
PLUNKETT, T.F. Florida Power & Light Co.

SUBJECT: Forwards SALP repts 50-335/97-99 & 50-389/97-99 for period of 960107-970329. Performance in operations & maint remained good & performance in engineering & plant support declined but were still considered good overall.

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TITLE: Systematic Assessment of Licensee Performance (SALP) Report

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May 5, 1997

Florida Power and Light Company
ATTN: Mr. T. F. Plunkett
President - Nuclear Division
P. O. Box 14000
Juno Beach, FL 33408-0420

SUBJECT: SYSTEMATIC ASSESSMENT OF LICENSEE PERFORMANCE
(NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-335/97-99 AND 50-389/97-99)

Dear Mr. Plunkett:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has completed the Systematic Assessment of Licensee Performance (SALP) for the St. Lucie Nuclear Plant. The facility was assessed for the period of January 7, 1996 through March 29, 1997. The results of the assessment are documented in the enclosed SALP report which will be discussed with you at a public meeting at the St. Lucie site on May 19, 1997, at 1:30 p.m. (EDT).

St. Lucie Nuclear Plant's performance was assessed in four functional areas: Plant Operations, Maintenance, Engineering, and Plant Support. Performance in Operations and Maintenance remained good. Performance in Engineering and Plant Support declined but were still considered good overall.

Operations performance was characterized by a strong focus on safety, conservative decisions, and improved management oversight. Operator knowledge and ability was demonstrated by effective response to plant transients and proper performance of startups and shutdowns. Quality Assurance audits were generally effective in identifying areas for improvements. Procedure adequacy, operator attention to detail, configuration management control, and maintaining an adequate number of licensed operators are areas that warrant your continued attention.

Maintenance activities were characterized by generally good planning and attention to detail. Testing and surveillance programs were effectively implemented. Deficiencies were noted in the areas of procedure adequacy, Instrumentation and Control technician training, and balance of plant equipment performance. These areas remain challenges.

Engineering did not sustain past superior performance, but the area was still assessed as good. Engineering provided good support for plant operations and continued superior performance in the area of licensing activities. However, weaknesses were noted in the preparation of modification packages, in the quality verification and validation of computer software, and in the identification and correction of long-standing design control deficiencies.

Plant Support did not sustain past superior performance, but the area was assessed as good. Implementation of the radiation protection program was good. A significant decline in the Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP)

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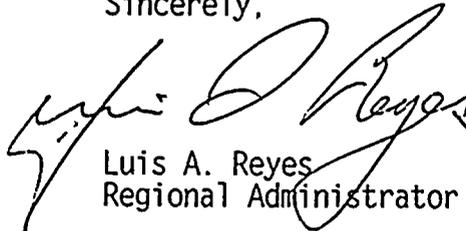
program was noted early in the assessment period. The security program was generally effective, but problems with access control were observed. Fire prevention/protection procedure quality was generally good and implementation was effective.

Corrective actions to REP audit findings were not timely early in the period. A broad self-assessment of the overall site performance at the St. Lucie Nuclear Plant was comprehensive. Plant management actions initiated to address the fundamental weakness identified in the assessment were considered reasonable. Continued management attention to implementation of these actions is considered necessary to sustain lasting improvements.

In accordance with Section 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

No reply to this letter is required; however, should you have any questions or comments, I would be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,



Luis A. Reyes
Regional Administrator

Docket Nos. 50-335, 50-389
License Nos. DPR-67, NPF-16

Enclosure: SALP Report

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