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To: Mr. J. P. O'Reilly, Director Region II
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

May 15, 1980

From: Mr. C. M. Wethy, Plant Manager
St. Lucie Plant - DPR 67
Florida Power & Light Company
Miami, Florida

Subject: MEMO FOR FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION TO CONFIRM 10 CFR PART 21
PROMPT REPORTABLE OCCURRENCE 335-80-27

Operation in Mode 5 with partially drained Reactor Coolant System.


This memo is to confirm a telephone call on May 14, 1980 to Mr. Steve Elrod of your office.

Event: On May 14, 1980, Florida Power and Light was informed by the St. Lucie Unit 1 NSSS supplier, Combustion Engineering, that partial draining of St. Lucie 1 type Reactor Coolant Systems while in Mode 5 is a condition that has not been analyzed for the boron dilution event. The effect of the reduced RCS volume on Combustion Engineering's analysis would be a predicted time to criticality that is less than the minimum time period for operator action, assuming no more than the Technical Specification (T.S. 3.1.1.2) shutdown margin of 1% $\Delta\rho$ existed at the onset of the event.

Corrective Action:

In accordance with the NSSS supplier's recommendations, Florida Power & Light has revised plant operating procedures to:

- a) increase the shutdown margin when partially drained in mode 5 by an additional 1% $\Delta\rho$ above the existing Tech Spec required shutdown margin of 1% $\Delta\rho$, ensuring at least 20 minutes to elapse before criticality, and
- b) preclude operation with more than two charging pumps running while in mode 5.


C. M. Wethy
Plant Manager
St. Lucie Plant

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