



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

June 8, 1989

The Honorable Bob Graham
United States Senator
Post Office Box 3050
Tallahassee, Florida 32315

Dear Senator Graham:

I am responding to your letter of April 28, 1989, in which you indicated that one of your constituents, Eva Siegel, expressed concern regarding the Turkey Point plant in the Miami area.

Eva Siegel's concern appears to be based on a four-page letter from Joette Lorian which was attached to Ms. Siegel's note to you. I have reviewed the Lorian letter and believe it to be a misleading summary of the situation at Turkey Point because it fails to mention the positive steps and encouraging signs that also exist at Turkey Point. Some of these are discussed below to provide a more balanced perspective.

The Turkey Point plant in the Miami area has had its share of operating problems in the past, and concern over Turkey Point's operation is understandable. NRC recognized this in the early 1980's and stepped up its inspection and oversight activities, which resulted in several fines, a series of Orders requiring improvements, and a number of meetings with the licensee. NRC monitoring of the site was increased by assigning more inspectors and paying special attention to the operating data from the plant. In early 1984, the licensee, Florida Power and Light Company (FPL), committed to a major improvement effort called the Performance Enhancement Program (PEP). Since that time, FPL has spent several hundred million dollars to improve plant equipment. In addition, FPL is now in the process of upgrading the emergency electric power supplies at the plant and is adding two large safety-related diesel generators at a cost estimated to exceed \$80 million.

Although major improvements were and are being made at the plant, it has been apparent the last few years that further improvements were needed, especially in the areas of management and operations. This need was indicated by numerous citations by NRC for failure to follow procedures, operational errors by plant personnel, and a less than aggressive maintenance effort. Beginning in 1987, FPL has made widespread management changes at the Turkey Point site and at corporate headquarters. New, experienced personnel have been placed in key positions.

On June 1, 1989, the NRC staff briefed the Commission on the performance of selected operating nuclear power plants. Turkey Point was again identified as a plant whose performance would be closely monitored. During the discussion it was apparent that the Commission and staff are troubled by the inability of the licensee to achieve sustained good performance at Turkey Point.

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However, there are signs that the improvements in plant equipment, licensee management, and engineering programs are beginning to have an effect. The plant operational experience in 1988 was better than in any year to date. It is too soon to conclude that Turkey Point has improved its performance in a permanent and lasting way. NRC plans to continue its high level of staff and management attention to this plant until it is convinced that the improvements are permanent.

Regarding the hearing requested by Joette Lorian on the subject of reactor vessel embrittlement, a prehearing conference was held in Miami on March 21, 1989, by the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board to determine whether a public hearing was warranted. As of May 30, 1989, the Board had not issued its decision on whether to hold a hearing.

I believe that this letter addresses Ms. Siegel's concerns. If I can be of further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,
 Original signed by
 Victor Stello, Jr./
 Victor Stello, Jr.
 Executive Director
 for Operations

DISTRIBUTION

Docket File (50-250/50-251)
 NRC PDR w/incoming
 Local PDR w/cy of incoming
 EDO #0004472
 EDO r/f
 TMurley/JSniezek
 JPartlow
 FMiraglia
 DCrutchfield
 FGillespie
 PDII-2 r/f (w/cy of incoming)
 SVarga
 GLainas
 DMiller
 OGC
 SECY (89-0443)
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 Beverly Clayton
 GEdison w/cy of incoming
 CA
 SEbnetter, RII

*See previous concurrence

LA:PD22:DRPR DAMiller* 05/19/89	PM:PD22:DRPR GEdison* 05/19/89	D:PD22:DRPR HNBerkow* 05/23/89	TECH. ED. * 05/24/89	ADR2:DRPR GLainas* 05/23/89
D:DPR:NRR SAVarga* 05/24/89	A:ADP:NRR JPartlow* 05/24/89	DD:NRR JHSniezek* 05/25/89	D:NRR TEMurley* 05/25/89	EDO VStello 06/1/89

CA
 MRL
 6/7

[illegible]

7. *Chlorophyll a* and *Chlorophyll b* were determined using a spectrophotometer (Shimadzu UV-1601) at 663 nm and 646 nm, respectively. The concentrations of *Chlorophyll a* and *Chlorophyll b* were calculated using the following equations:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 08-22-2011 BY 60322

118

[illegible]



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*See previous concurrence

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SAVarga*
05/24/89

A:ADP:NRR
JPartlow*
05/24/89

DD:NRR
JHSniezek*
05/25/89

D:NRR
TEMurley*
05/25/89

EDQ/VS
VStello
05/31/89

6 CA
6/1/89

The Honorable Bob Graham

- 2 -

Regarding the hearing requested by Joette Lorion on the subject of reactor vessel embrittlement, a prehearing conference was held in Miami on March 21, 1989, by the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board to determine whether a public hearing was warranted. As of May 20, 1989, the Board had not issued its decision on whether to hold a hearing.

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S. Elmetter, RII

[GREEN TICKET 0004472]

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JPartlow

05/24/89

DD:NRR

JHSniezek

05/25/89

D:NRR

TMurley

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VStello

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Figure 1

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3

INCOMING



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

EDO Principal Correspondence Control

ACTION

FROM:

DUE: 05/24/89

EDO CONTROL: 0004472

DOC DT: 04/28/89

FINAL REPLY:

Sen. Bob Graham

TO:

OCA

FOR SIGNATURE OF:

Executive Director

*Extended to 6/9/89
Per J. Partlow OK
on 5/12/89 D. Mossburg
notified 5/12/89*

** GRN **

CRC NO: 89-0443

DESC:

ROUTING:

ENCLOSES LETTER FROM EVA SIEGEL CONCERNING
TURKEY POINT

SEbneter, RII

DATE: 05/10/89

ASSIGNED TO:

CONTACT:

NRR

Murley

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:
RESPOND TO TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA OFFICE.
MARK ENVELOPE ATTN; MRS. BECKY LINER.

*50 - 250
w/ltc. ltr. 6/8/89
#8906160062*

NRR RECEIVED: MAY 10, 1989
ACTION: DRPR:VARGA

NRR ROUTING: MURLEY/SNIEZEK
PARTLOW
MIRAGLIA
CRUTCHFIELD
GILLESPIE
MOSSBURG x23072

Due D RP Dir 5/19.

<p>ACTION</p> <p>DUE TO NRR DIRECTOR'S</p> <p>BY: <u>5/22/89</u></p>

6/7/89 per Partlow OK on 5/12/89

23

Yd

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

PAPER NUMBER: CRC-89-0443 LOGGING DATE: May 8 89

ACTION OFFICE: ~~DOO~~ ~~STATE~~ ~~DO~~

AUTHOR: B. Graham--Const Ref
AFFILIATION: UNITED STATES SENATE

LETTER DATE: Apr 28 89 FILE CODE: ID&R-5 Turkey Point

SUBJECT: Concerns re the safety problems at Turkey Point

ACTION: Direct Reply

DISTRIBUTION: OCA to Ack, Docket

SPECIAL HANDLING: None

NOTES: Eva Siegel

DATE DUE: May 22 89

SIGNATURE: . DATE SIGNED:
AFFILIATION:

8902118

Rec'd Off. EDO

Date ~~5-9-89~~ 5/10/89

Time ~~6:45 AM~~ 2:30 pm

EDO---004472