



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

50-250

August 8, 1991

The Honorable Bob Graham
United States Senator
P.O. Box 3050
Tallahassee, Florida 32315

Dear Senator Graham:

I am responding to your letter of July 18, 1991, in which you enclosed a letter from one of your constituents, Sally Stoller. Ms. Stoller expressed concerns and questions about (1) conditions at the Turkey Point nuclear plant and whether it is one of the most dangerous plants in the nation, (2) construction of a nuclear plant in Florida and whether the Bush administration has pinpointed Florida as a possible site of more plants, and (3) use of alternate forms of energy in Florida.

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff previously summarized the conditions and status of the Turkey Point plant in a letter to Ms. Stoller from Dr. Murley, the Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, dated February 13, 1990. The staff stated that the plant was being operated safely and that closing the plant, as suggested by Ms. Stoller, was not warranted. On February 15, 1990, the NRC removed Turkey Point from its list of problem plants. During 1989-1990, the plant operated with improved performance, as evidenced by the latest NRC systematic assessment of licensee performance (SALP), which was issued on September 25, 1990. The staff's SALP is an integrated agency effort to evaluate a licensee's performance. Before entering the current scheduled dual-unit outage (November 1990 for Unit 4 and December 1990 for Unit 3), both units were operating at full power and had a record 102-day combined run. During the current outage, the licensee, Florida Power and Light Company (FPL), is making many safety-related improvements, including the installation of two additional emergency diesel generators and upgrading of the plant security system.

Regarding Ms. Stoller's concerns about construction of a new nuclear power plant and whether the Bush administration has pinpointed Florida as a possible site of more nuclear power plants, the NRC has no authority to influence or contribute to any of these decisions. At present, to the best of our knowledge, neither FPL nor Florida Power Corporation has any plans to build a nuclear plant.

With respect to the use of alternate forms of energy, the Department of Energy (DOE) has been sponsoring development programs for many years directed toward alternate means of energy and power production. However, to date, none of these sources has reached the point of large-scale commercial feasibility. We suggest that Ms. Stoller contact the DOE for further information on the status of these programs.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

I trust that this letter adequately responds to your constituent's concerns.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:
James M. Taylor,
James M. Taylor
Executive Director
for Operations

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WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

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ACTION

8/8/91

FROM: DUE: 08/09/91

EDO CONTROL: 0006804
DOC DT: 07/18/91
FINAL REPLY:

Sen. Bob Graham

TO:

OCA

FOR SIGNATURE OF: ** GRN **

CRC NO: 91-0712

Executive Director

DESC:

ROUTING:

ENCLOSES LETTER FROM SALLY STOLLER CONCERNING
TURKEY POINT

Taylor
Sniezek
Thompson
Blaha
Ebnetter, RII

DATE: 07/30/91

ASSIGNED TO: NRR CONTACT: Murley

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

REPLY TO TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA OFFICE.
MARK ENVELOPE ATTN: BECKY LINER

*Rec'd NRR: July 30, 1991
Action: DEPE: Varga*

*NRR Routing: Murley
Miraglia
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ACTION
DUE TO NRR DIRECTOR'S OFFICE
BY 8/6/91



