



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

EXEMPTION FROM UPDATED FINAL SAFETY ANALYSIS REPORT

UPDATE REQUIREMENTS OF 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4)

FLORIDA POWER AND LIGHT

TURKEY POINT PLANT, UNITS 3 AND 4

DOCKET NOS. 50-250 AND 50-251

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated March 1998, Florida Power and Light (the licensee) submitted a request for an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4), "Maintenance of records, making reports." Section 50.71(e)(4) requires, in part, that "Subsequent revisions [to the updated Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR)] must be filed annually or 6 months after each refueling outage provided the interval between successive updates to the FSAR does not exceed 24 months." The two Turkey Point Plant (TPP) units share a common FSAR; therefore, this rule requires the licensee to update the station's FSAR annually or within 6 months after each unit's refueling outage.

2.0 EVALUATION

Section 50.71(e)(4) ensures that all licensees update their FSARs annually or at least every refueling outage and no less frequently than every 2 years. When two units share a common FSAR, the rule has the effect of making the licensee update the FSAR roughly every 9 months. The TPP units are on an 18-month fuel cycle, meaning that FSAR updates based on the refueling schedule must be submitted approximately every 9 months. However, the licensee maintains the plant copy of the FSAR as a "living" document, implementing revisions to that copy on a real-time basis. The current rule, as revised August 31, 1992 (57 FR 39355), was intended to provide some reduction in regulatory burden by limiting the frequency of required updates. The underlying purpose of the rule was to relieve licensees of the burden of filing annual FSAR revisions while assuring that such revisions are made at least every 24 months. The Commission reduced the burden, in part, by permitting a licensee to submit its FSAR revisions 6 months after refueling outages for its facility, but did not provide in the rule for multiple unit facilities sharing a common FSAR. Rather, the Commission stated that "With respect to [the] concern about multiple facilities sharing a common FSAR, licensees will have maximum flexibility for scheduling updates on a case-by-case basis." The burden reduction, however, can only be realized by single-unit facilities or multiple-unit facilities that maintain separate FSARs for each unit.

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The licensee's requested exemption would permit periodic FSAR updates within 6 months of each Unit 4 refueling outage, but not to exceed 24 months from the last revision. Thus the requirement that an update be submitted within 6 months of an outage of each unit is no longer retained. With the exemption, the TPP FSAR will be updated and maintained current within 24 months of the last revision. Revising the FSAR 6 months after refueling outages for each unit is not necessary to achieve the underlying purpose of the rule.

3.0 CONCLUSION

The staff finds that the alternative proposed by the licensee is acceptable in that revising the FSAR 6 months after refueling outages for each unit is not necessary to achieve the underlying purpose of the rule (10 CFR 50.71(e)(4)), which is to require the FSAR of each station be revised at least once per 24 months.

Principal Contributor: Kahtan N. Jabbour

Date: July 16, 1998



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Commission has determined that special circumstances are present as defined in 10 CFR 50.12(a)(2)(ii). The Commission has further determined that, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12, the exemption is authorized by law, will not present an undue risk to the public health and safety and is consistent with the common defense and security, and is otherwise in the public interest. The Commission hereby grants the licensee an exemption from the requirement of 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4) to submit updates to the TPP FSAR within 6 months of each unit's refueling outage. The licensee will be required to submit updates to the TPP FSAR within 6 months after each Unit 4 refueling outage, not to exceed 24 months between subsequent revisions.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.32, the Commission has determined that granting of this exemption will have no significant effect on the quality of the human environment (63 FR 36276).

This exemption is effective upon issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Original signed by
Samuel J. Collins

Samuel J. Collins, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Dated at Rockville, Maryland,
this 16th day of July 1998

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