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ACCESSION NBR: 9801130112 DOC. DATE: 98/01/08 NOTARIZED: NO DOCKET #
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SUBJECT: Forwards response to exercise weakness identified in paragraph P4.8 of NRC insp rept 50-400/97-11 transmitted by ltr dtd 971124.

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JAN - 8 1998

SERIAL: HNP-98-003

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTENTION: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

SHEARON HARRIS NUCLEAR POWER PLANT
DOCKET NO. 50-400/LICENSE NO. NPF-63
REPOSENSE TO EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS EXERCISE WEAKNESS
(NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-400/97-11)

Dear Sir or Madam:

Attached is Carolina Power & Light Company's response to the exercise weakness identified in paragraph P4.8 of NRC Inspection Report No. 50-400/97-11 transmitted by letter dated November 24, 1997.

Questions regarding this matter may be referred to Mr. J. H. Eads at (919) 362-2646.

Sincerely,

MGW/mgw

Attachment

- c: Mr. K. P. Barr (NRC Plant Support Branch Chief, Region II)
- Mr. J. B. Brady (NRC Senior Resident Inspector, HNP)
- Mr. S. C. Flanders (NRR Project Manager, HNP)
- Mr. L. A. Reyes (NRC Regional Administrator, Region II)

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**RESPONSE TO EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS EXERCISE WEAKNESS
NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-400/97-11**

The following is a restatement of the Exercise Weakness identified by the NRC during the Harris Nuclear Plant's (HNP's) October 7, 1997 emergency preparedness exercise.

Identified Weakness: (NRC Inspection Report No. 50-400/97-11, paragraph P4.8)

"The inspectors in the TSC observed that the failure of the TSC staff to promptly detect and evaluate the waste gas tank leak delayed onsite protective actions. Despite clear indications of an ongoing release in progress, there was no timely initiation of protective actions for TSC personnel and no sitewide PA announcement to inform personnel of the release. It was not until 3:41 p.m. that the Radiation Control Director (RCD) directed onsite exposure controls to include the start of the TSC emergency ventilation and filtration system, placed restrictions on eating, smoking, and drinking in the TSC and made a sitewide announcement as to the changed radiological conditions onsite. These actions were untimely in that they were taken approximately 16 minutes after initial indications were available that the release had begun. The failure to promptly direct onsite protective actions in a timely manner for a release in progress was identified by the inspectors as an Exercise Weakness."

Corrective Actions Taken:

Emergency Response Facility Information System (ERFIS) training has been completed for the Technical Support Center (TSC)-RCDs to specifically assist with prompt detection of accident and classifiable conditions. This training was completed on December 10, 1997.

Participation of the "C" Team RCD (exercise participant) as an observer was conducted during the two drills following the evaluated exercise. The purpose of this participation was to demonstrate techniques and approaches incorporated by other RCDs and to facilitate discussion among the Emergency Response Organization (ERO) members. This participation was completed on November 13, 1997.

In addition, the Exercise Critique Report issued November 6, 1997 addressed this issue to the other members of the ERO.

