

50-335

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FROM: FLORIDA POWER & LIGHT CO  
MIAMI, FLA  
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DESCRIPTION

LTR NOTORIZED 8-16-76 TRANS THE FOLLOWING.....

ENCLOSURE

PROPOSED AMDT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE CONCERNING THE AUTOMATIC ACTUATION OF A CONTAINMENT VACUUM RELIEF VALVE DUE TO VACUUM IN CONTAINMENT.....

**ACKNOWLEDGED  
DO NOT REMOVE**

PLANT NAME: **ST. LUCIE # 1**

SAFETY

FOR ACTION/INFORMATION

ENVIRO

8-19-76 RKB

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PROJECT MANAGER: (1) SILVER		PROJECT MANAGER:
LIC. ASST.: (17) Diqqs		LIC. ASST.:

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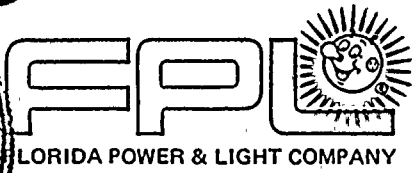
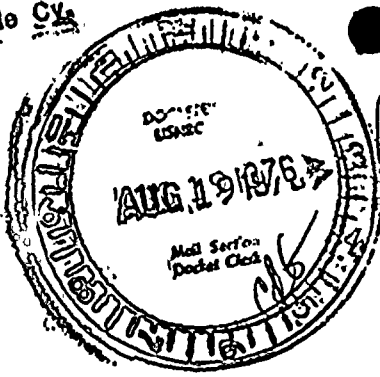
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Regulatory

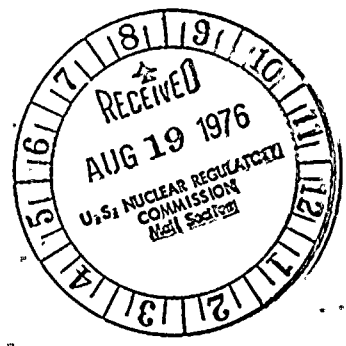
File 04

O. BOX 013100, MIAMI, FL 33101



August 16, 1976  
L-76-296

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
Attention: Mr. Victor Stello, Director  
Division of Operating Reactors  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20555



Dear Mr. Stello:

Re: St. Lucie Unit 1  
Docket No. 50-335  
Proposed Amendment to  
Facility Operating License DPR-67

In accordance with 10 CFR 50.30, Florida Power & Light Company submits herewith three (3) signed originals and forty (40) copies of a request to amend Appendix A of Facility Operating License DPR-67.

The proposed amendment is described below and shown on the attached Technical Specification page bearing the date of this letter in the lower right hand corner.

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Refueling Technical Specification 3.9.4.c is reworded to permit automatic actuation of a Containment Vacuum Relief Valve due to vacuum in containment.

The proposed amendment has been reviewed and the conclusion reached that it does not involve a significant hazards consideration, therefore, prenoticing pursuant to 10 CFR 2.105 should not be required. A written safety evaluation is attached.

Very truly yours,

Robert E. Uhrig  
Vice President

8450

REU/MAS/cpc

Attachments

cc: Mr. Norman C. Moseley  
Jack R. Newman, Esquire



## REFUELING OPERATIONS

### CONTAINMENT PENETRATIONS

#### LIMITING CONDITION FOR OPERATION

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3.9.4 The containment penetrations shall be in the following status:

- a. The equipment door closed and held in place by a minimum of four bolts,
- b. A minimum of one door in each airlock is closed, and
- c. Each penetration providing direct access from the containment to the outside atmosphere, except as provided in Table 3.6-2 of Specification 3.6.3.1 and except for automatic actuation of the Containment Vacuum Relief Valves due to vacuum in containment, shall be either:
  1. Closed by an isolation valve, blind flange, or manual valve, or
  2. Be capable of being closed by an OPERABLE automatic containment isolation valve.

APPLICABILITY: During CORE ALTERATIONS or movement of irradiated fuel within the containment.

#### ACTION:

With the requirements of the above specification not satisfied, immediately suspend all operations involving CORE ALTERATIONS or movement of irradiated fuel in the containment. The provisions of Specification 3.0.3 are not applicable.

#### SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS

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4.9.4 Each of the above required containment penetrations shall be determined to be either in its closed/isolated condition or capable of being closed by an OPERABLE automatic containment isolation valve within 72 hours prior to the start of and at least once per 7 days during CORE ALTERATIONS or movement of irradiated fuel in the containment by:

- a. Verifying the penetrations are in their closed/isolated condition, or
- b. Testing the containment isolation valves per the applicable portions of Specifications 4.6.3.1.1 and 4.6.3.1.2.

## SAFETY EVALUATION

### Introduction

This Safety Evaluation supports a proposed revision to refueling Technical Specification 3.9.4 to permit automatic actuation of a containment vacuum relief valve due to vacuum in containment. The intent is to clarify the specification and ensure that actuation of vacuum relief valves for the purpose of satisfying their design function is not interpreted as affecting containment integrity.

### Discussion

During initial core loading, a containment purge fan was started and containment pressure became sufficiently sub-atmospheric to cause a containment vacuum relief valve to open. This was in conflict with the wording of Technical Specification 3.9.4 which requires that, during refueling operations, there be no direct access from containment to the outside atmosphere which is incapable of automatic isolation.

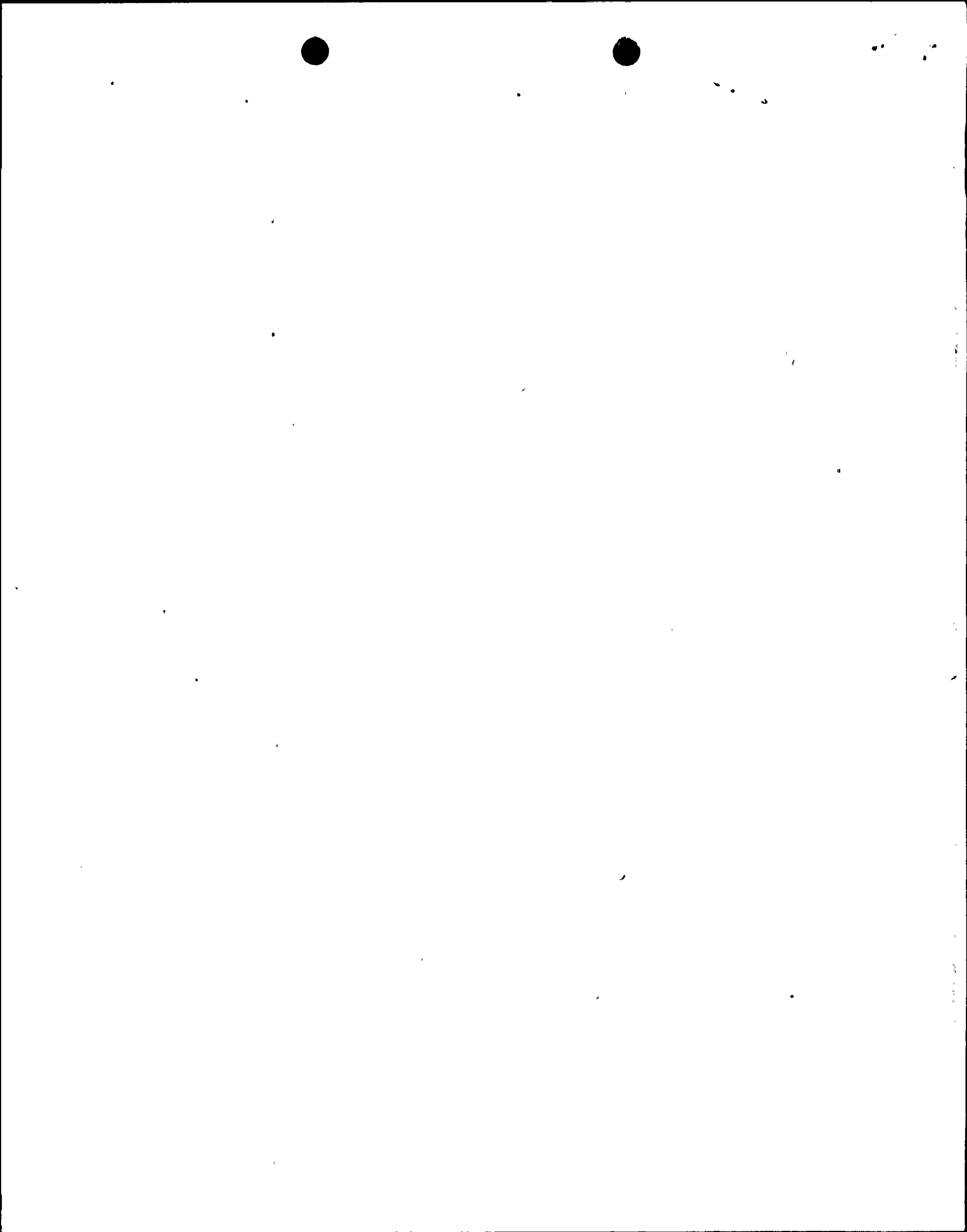
The containment vacuum relief valves cannot be automatically closed or opened by operator action because they are not designed to receive a Containment Isolation Signal (CIS) and do not have a manual or hand operator. They do not receive a CIS because they are designed to protect the containment structure from excessive vacuum. The occurrence was reported to the NRC Region II Office of Inspection and Enforcement on April 5, 1976 as Reportable Occurrence 335-76-4.

Refueling Technical Specifications do not presently consider the unique function of the containment vacuum relief valves. Although containment integrity as defined by the current specifications would not exist when these valves are open, it is emphasized that in order to open them (either automatically or for testing purposes), a vacuum must be sensed by the control instruments. Under these circumstances, any leakage through the vacuum relief valves would be leakage into containment and would be due to the vacuum which caused these valves to open in the first place. It should also be noted that, as containment pressure rises, the vacuum relief valves automatically close before reaching atmospheric pressure. Therefore, actuation of these valves for the purpose of performing their design function (protection of the containment vessel from excessive vacuum) does not violate the concept of containment integrity, because any leakage would be from the outside atmosphere into containment.

SAFETY EVALUATION (Continued)

Conclusion

Based on these considerations, (1) the proposed change does not increase the probability or consequences of accidents or malfunctions of equipment important to safety and does not reduce the margin of safety as defined in the basis for any technical specification, therefore, the change does not involve a significant hazards consideration, (2) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, and (3) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations and the issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.



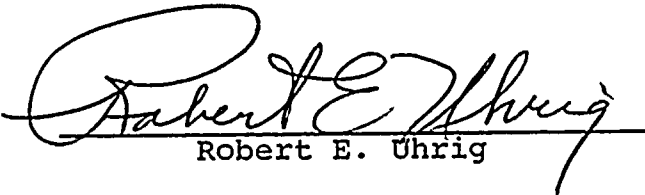


STATE OF FLORIDA     )  
                              )  
COUNTY OF DADE     )            SS.

Robert E. Uhrig, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

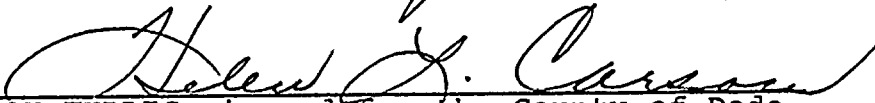
That he is a Vice President of Florida Power & Light Company,  
the Licensee herein;

That he has executed the foregoing document; that the state-  
ments made in this said document are true and correct to the  
best of his knowledge, information, and belief, and that he  
is authorized to execute the document on behalf of said  
Licensee.

  
Robert E. Uhrig

Subscribed and sworn to before me this

16<sup>th</sup> day of August, 19 76

  
NOTARY-PUBLIC, in and for the County of Dade,  
State of Florida

NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF FLORIDA AT LARGE

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES NOV. 30 1979

BONDED THRU GENERAL INS. UNDERWRITERS

My commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_