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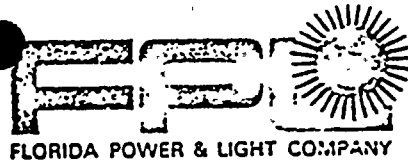
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April 5, 1976

PRN-LI-76-70

Regulatory

File Cya



Mr. Norman C. Moseley, Director, Region II
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
230 Peachtree Street, N. W., Suite 818
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Mr. Moseley:

REPORTABLE OCCURRENCE 335-76-4
ST. LUCIE UNIT 1
DATE OF OCCURRENCE: MARCH 5, 1976

BREACH OF CONTAINMENT INTEGRITY

The attached Licensee Event Report is being submitted in accordance with Technical Specification 6.9 to provide 30-day notification of the subject occurrence.

Very truly yours,

J.R. Brusen
for A. D. Schmidt
Vice President
Power Resources

MAS/cpc

Attachment

cc: Jack R. Newman, Esquire
Director, Office of Inspection and Enforcement (30)
Director, Office of Management Information and
Program Control (3)

3813



105-1-107



CONTROL BLOCK: 1 6

(PLEASE PRINT ALL REQUIRED INFORMATION)

LICENSEE NAME: [01] F L S L S 1 [00-00000-00] LICENSE NUMBER: [41111] LICENSE TYPE: [03] EVENT TYPE

[01] CONT [] CATEGORY [L] REPORT TYPE [L] REPORT SOURCE [050-0335] DOCKET NUMBER [030576] EVENT DATE [040576] REPORT DATE

EVENT DESCRIPTION

[02] During initial core loading, a containment purge fan was started and containment pressure became subatmospheric causing 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. In order to protect the

[07] [S D] [F] [Z Z Z Z Z Z] [Z] [Z 9 9 9] [N]

CAUSE DESCRIPTION

[08] Specification 3.9.4 does not consider the unique function of the Containment Vacuum Relief Valves. Even though containment integrity is not exactly as described in the specification when one of these valves opens, it should be noted that the valves and

[11] [B] [000] [NA] [a] [NA]

[12] [Z] [Z] [NA] [NA]

PERSONNEL EXPOSURES

[13] [000] [Z] [NA]

PERSONNEL INJURIES

[14] [000] [NA]

PROBABLE CONSEQUENCES

[15] [NA]

LOSS OR DAMAGE TO FACILITY

[16] [Z] [NA]

PUBLICITY

[17] [NA]

ADDITIONAL FACTORS

[18] See Page Two for continuation of Event and Cause descriptions.

[19]

Event Description (continued)

containment structure from excessive vacuum during all modes of operation, the Containment Vacuum Relief Valves, by design, do not receive a Containment Isolation Signal (CIS). They do close again when containment pressure approaches atmospheric, however, they are not capable of being closed automatically by CIS. The immediate corrective action was to suspend core loading until the valves were closed. Loss of containment integrity under the conditions of Technical Specification 3.9.4 occurred on one previous occasion and was described in Reportable Occurrence 335-76-1. (335-76-4).

Cause Description (continued)

their associated check valves do close automatically when containment pressure approaches atmospheric. Thus, actuation of the relief valves for the purpose of performing their design function (protection of the containment from excessive vacuum) does not violate the concept of containment integrity because there is no outflow of air from containment to the outside atmosphere through the relief valves.

Followup action will be to contact the appropriate office of the NRC for clarification of Technical Specification 3.9.4.