



March 29, 1978

Mr. David L. Swafford
Executive Director
Engineering Department
Florida Public Service Commission
700 South Adams Street
Tallahassee FL 32304

Dear Mr. Swafford:

With regard to your request for comments on the Commission's Engineering Department report of February 1, 1978, regarding our May 16, 1977 System Disturbance, I submit the following:

The Commission's Engineering Department should be complimented on their treatment of this difficult and sometimes misunderstood subject of power system reliability. We have initiated work to implement the actions recommended in their report.

In the Staff's report, they asked if we would clarify our policy regarding the starting of gas turbines upon occurrence of a single contingency. At the present time we utilize gas turbines for a number of system conditions: (1) to maintain our supplemental reserve obligation to FCG, (2) to control the amount of power being transferred into our South and East areas, (3) for interchange transactions, (4) for testing, and (5) to serve load when no other generation is available.

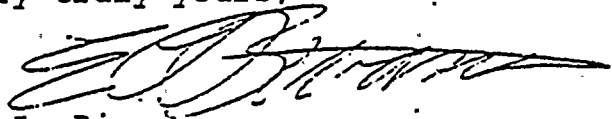
Our supplemental reserve requirement, the power transfer limit, and the status of each gas turbine are continuously monitored by the System Operator. If a generator or major transmission line in the South or East areas is tripped and either requirement is violated, the System Operator will immediately start gas turbines. This procedure will be automated to a certain extent with the installation of our

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new System Control Center later this year. This system will routinely evaluate system conditions and direct the dispatcher's attention to problem areas.

Should you or the staff require additional clarification, please contact me.

Very truly yours,



E. L. Bivans
Vice President

JSB/JRS/ds

xc: Messrs:

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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
U.S. Department of Energy
Florida Department of Environmental Regulation
Florida Division of State Planning
Florida Regional Planning Council
Palm Beach County Health Department
Broward County Environmental Control Board
Dade County Pollution Control
State Energy Office
SERC