

Mr. W. G. McDonald, Director
Office of Plans and Schedules
Directorate of Licensing, Regulatory
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D. C. 20545

Dear Mr. McDonald:

Re: Delays in Nuclear Power Plant Construction

The following is in response to your telegram of September 10, 1974, requesting information concerning nuclear units to be granted construction permits in FY 1975. Your telegram was not received by this office until the morning of September 24, 1974, when it was telecopied to us by Mr. Lovelace of the AEC; accordingly, we were unable to meet your requested reply date of September 20, 1974.

Florida Power & Light Company's St. Lucie Unit No. 2 (Docket No. 50-389) is scheduled to be granted a Construction Permit in May 1975. No delays of the estimated September 1979 fuel loading and December 1979 commercial operation dates are anticipated due to financial conditions or need for power considerations. Obviously, these estimated dates can, in the future, be affected by other complex factors such as the obtaining of all required federal, state and local approvals to start construction, the equipment procurement process and labor force utilization, to name a few. When a firm construction start date is assured and, later, when construction begins, the effect of these other factors can be more accurately assessed.

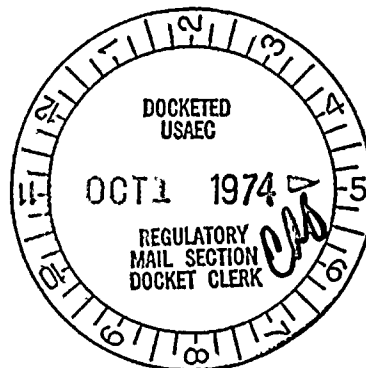
Nevertheless, it is to be emphasized that St. Lucie Unit No. 2 is a priority construction project for FPL and that all efforts will be directed toward commencing commercial operation at the earliest feasible date.

Yours very truly,

Robert E. Uhrig
Vice President

REU:nch

cc: Mr. Jack R. Newman



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