



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

TERA

January 22, 1980

Docket No. 50-302

Mr. J. A. Hancock
Director, Nuclear Operations
Florida Power Corporation
P. O. Box 14042, Mail Stop C-4
St. Petersburg, Florida 33733

Dear Mr. Hancock:

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON THE EFFECTS OF CERTAIN VALVE LINE-UP PROCEDURAL CHANGES

Based upon design review, we have determined that Arkansas 1, Crystal River 3, Oconee 1, 2, and 3, Rancho Seco and Three Mile Island 1 have two check valves in series with a closed motor operated valve (MOV) to isolate the low pressure safety injection system from the reactor coolant system. We have recently completed a study of this configuration (Oconee) and its contribution to the risk of core melt. The results show a higher value contribution to the risk of core melt from a loss of coolant accident outside of containment than previously found for Surry (WASH-1400). We are studying this matter and pursuing interim and permanent resolutions. The permanent fix, which is being addressed as part of the review of your Inservice Testing Program, requires a leak test of the check valves or an equivalent test. The proposed interim resolution seeks to place the check valves under continuous test by requiring that the plant be started up and operated with the MOV open. Before we adopt this temporary fix, we wish to be assured that this interim approach carries no unacceptable adverse safety impact.

We have, in the past, discussed the following questions with members of your staff:

1. What is the adverse safety impact of starting up the plant with the MOV in the open position?
2. What is the adverse safety impact of operating the plant with the MOV in the open position?

In order to assess the impact of the proposed MOV position and to allow your comments to be considered prior to our resolution of this issue, kindly submit your response to the two questions above within 45 days of receipt of this letter.

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Sincerely,

Robert W. Reid, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #4
Division of Operating Reactors

cc: See next page

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Florida Power Corporation

cc: Mr. S. A. Brandimore
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