



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

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT APPRAISAL BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

SUPPORTING AMENDMENT NO. 12 TO LICENSE NO. DPR-72

FLORIDA POWER CORPORATION, ET AL

CRYSTAL RIVER UNIT NO. 3 NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT

DOCKET NO. 50-302

1. Description of Proposed Action

On November 8, 1977, Florida Power Corporation (FPC) proposed an amendment to Crystal River Unit No. 3 Environmental Technical Specification (ETS) 3.1.3, Impingement on Intake Screens. The change would add the following sentence: "This Specification shall not be applicable during the period of the intake canal modification." FPC contends that impingement monitoring data during the planned extensive dredging modifications of the intake canal would be of questionable value. We have evaluated the proposed change. This appraisal does not address the impact from the intake canal modification.

2. Environmental Impacts of Proposed Action

The intake canal serving Crystal River Units Nos. 1, 2, and 3 is being modified to accept large coal barges for the conversion of Units Nos. 1 and 2 from oil to coal fuel. The canal will be deepened to a minimum depth of 20 feet below mean sea level. In addition, the south side of the intake canal is being lengthened by approximately 1.5 miles. The intake canal modification is scheduled to begin in March 1978 and run until August 1979 according to the licensee's November 8, 1977 submittal.

ETS 3.1.3 requires sampling of fish and shellfish from the intake screens of all three units once weekly for 24 consecutive hours and daily visual monitoring to determine any abnormal catches.

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FPC indicates that impingement data would be of questionable use because of the unique circumstances of the intake canal work.

The objective of ETS 3.1.3 is "to determine the quantity of impinged fish and shellfish on the intake screens to compare with preoperational data." Impingement monitoring data collected during the period of intake dredging would not satisfy this objective as preoperational data were not collected under comparable conditions.

This deletion of the impingement monitoring program during the period of the intake canal modification has been discussed with Region IV of the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency. They have indicated that the temporary suspension of this monitoring program does not contradict their requirements on the Crystal River Station as stated in the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit or study plans related to 316(a) or (b) demonstrations.

It is our opinion that the number of impinged organisms during the dredging activity might rise initially as organisms residing in the canal are driven towards the intake screens. However, after this short initial rise, the number impinged should be less than that impinged during normal operation because the noise and turbidity associated with the dredging activity would serve as a physical deterrent to organisms in the site vicinity. We, therefore, conclude that weekly quantitative impingement monitoring need not be conducted during the period of the intake canal modifications.

We have determined that the daily qualitative visual monitoring of the intake screens should continue as a check against any unforeseen factors which might cause impingement to be excessive during the period of intake dredging. FPC has agreed to this modification and the wording of ETS 3.1.3 will retain the requirement for the visual monitoring during the period of the intake canal modification. The wording of ETS 3.1.3 will also indicate that the intake canal modification is that described in Permit No. 09-20-4006 issued by the State of Florida, Department of Environmental Regulation.

Currently the reporting requirements of ETS 3.1.3 state that any daily sample with fish and shellfish biomass greater than 50 kg shall be reported. This requirement refers to the 24-hour quantitative sampling conducted weekly and not the daily visual check of the intake screens. To clarify this requirement, "daily sample" will be changed to "weekly sample."

3. Conclusion and Basis for Negative Declaration

On the basis of the foregoing analysis, we conclude that there will be no environmental impact attributable to the suspension of the quantitative impingement monitoring program during the intake canal modification. Having made this determination, we have further concluded that no environmental impact statement for the proposed action need be prepared and that a negative declaration to this effect is appropriate.

Dated: January 23, 1978

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONDOCKET NO. 50-302FLORIDA POWER CORPORATIONCITY OF ALACHUACITY OF BUSHNELLCITY OF GAINESVILLECITY OF KISSIMMEECITY OF LEESBURGCITY OF NEW SMYRNA BEACH AND UTILITIES COMMISSION, CITY OF NEW SMYRNA BEACHCITY OF OCALAORLANDO UTILITIES COMMISSION AND CITY OF ORLANDOSEBRING UTILITIES COMMISSIONSEMINOLE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.CITY OF TALLAHASSEENOTICE OF ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT TO FACILITY  
OPERATING LICENSEAND NEGATIVE DECLARATION

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has issued Amendment No. 12 to Facility Operating License No. DPR-72, issued to the Florida Power Corporation, City of Alachua, City of Bushnell, City of Gainesville, City of Kissimmee, City of Leesburg, City of New Smyrna Beach and Utilities Commission, City of New Smyrna Beach, City of Ocala, Orlando Utilities Commission and City of Orlando, Sebring Utilities Commission, Seminole Electric Cooperative, Inc., and the City of Tallahassee (the licensees) which revised Technical Specifications for operation of the Crystal River Unit No. 3 Nuclear Generating Plant located in Citrus County, Florida. The amendment is effective as of the date of issuance.

The amendment waives the requirement to perform weekly quantitative sampling of fish and shellfish from the intake screens during the

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period intake canal modifications are being conducted. The requirement to perform daily visual checks of the screens has been retained.

The application for the amendment complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations. The Commission has made appropriate findings as required by the Act and the Commission's rules and regulations in 10 CFR Chapter I, which are set forth in the license amendment. Prior public notice of this amendment was not required since the amendment does not involve a significant hazards consideration.

The Commission has prepared an environmental impact appraisal for the revised Technical Specifications and has concluded that an environmental impact statement for this particular action is not warranted because there will be no environmental impact attributable to the action other than that which has already been predicted and described in the Commission's Final Environmental Statement for the facility.

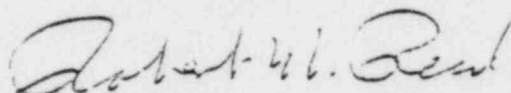
For further details with respect to this action, see (1) the application for amendment dated November 8, 1977, (2) Amendment No. 12 to License No. DPR-72, and (3) the Commission's related Environmental Impact Appraisal. All of these items are available for public

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inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., and at the Crystal River Public Library, Crystal River, Florida. A copy of items (2) and (3) may be obtained upon request addressed to the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555, Attention: Director, Division of Operating Reactors.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland, this 23rd day of January 1978.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



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