



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 43

TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-16

FLORIDA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY, ET AL.

ST. LUCIE PLANT, UNIT NO. 2

DOCKET NO. 50-389

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Amendment No. 39, issued on February 7, 1989 for the St. Lucie Plant Unit No. 2, revised emergency diesel generator surveillance testing requirements to meet the recommendations contained in the Generic Letter 84-15, "Proposed Staff Actions to Improve and Maintain Diesel Generator Reliability." Generic Letter 84-15 concluded that the frequency of diesel generator fast, cold starts from ambient conditions should be reduced to prevent premature diesel engine degradation, and encouraged licensees to amend their Technical Specifications accordingly. As a result of Amendment No. 39, a difference now exists between Action Statements 3.8.1.1.a and 3.8.1.1.f, both of which pertain to similar operating conditions of the emergency diesel generators, i.e., when one offsite power source is inoperable. By letter dated July 26, 1989, the licensee proposed a change to the surveillance requirements of the Action Statement 3.8.1.1.f to be consistent with the requirements of Action Statement 3.8.1.1.a.

2.0 EVALUATION

The proposed change would reduce the frequency of diesel engine starts and diesel engine fast, cold starts. The current frequency is to test the diesel generator within 1 hour of one of the offsite power sources becoming inoperable and at least once per 8 hours thereafter, using the fast, cold start approach. The proposed change would require that each diesel be tested within 24 hours when one offsite circuit is inoperable if each diesel generator was not successfully tested within the past 24 hours. The provision for reducing the fast, cold starts would also apply. The reduction of the periodic testing and type of start of the diesel generator during the period of time when an offsite circuit is not operable (up to 72 hours) is justified on the basis that the operability of both diesel generators is assured because the diesel generators were tested during the previous 24 hours, and, if not, they will be tested to demonstrate operability within 24 hours of declaring the offsite circuit inoperable. In addition, one offsite circuit would be operable.

The net effect of the change is to reduce the diesel generator testing frequency and type of start (fast, cold start) such that there is still a high degree of assurance that they would operate, if called upon, when one

offsite circuit is inoperable. The reduction of diesel generator testing frequency and type of start should increase the reliability of the machines because the engines will be properly conditioned before startup and the manner of starts will be decreased to reduce wear and tear. In addition, the proposed change will make the two Action Statements, 3.8.1.1.a and 3.8.1.1.f, consistent.

### 3.0 TECHNICAL FINDING

Based on the considerations discussed above, the staff finds the proposed change to Action Statement 3.8.1.1.f acceptable.

### 4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

This amendment involves a change with respect to the installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. The staff has determined that the amendment involves no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of any effluents that may be released offsite, and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission has previously published a proposed finding that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration and there has been no public comment on such finding. Accordingly, the amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR §51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b), no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendment.

### 5.0 CONCLUSION

We have concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, and (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and the issuance of the amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Dated: January 10, 1990

Principal Contributor:  
J. Norris

DATED: January 10, 1990

AMENDMENT NO. 43 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-16 - ST. LUCIE, UNIT 2

**Docket File**

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