

JUL 13 1983

Carolina Power and Light Company
ATTN: Mr. E. E. Utley
Executive Vice President
411 Fayetteville Street
Raleigh, NC 27602

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: INSPECTION REPORT NOS. 50-324/83-17 AND 50-325/83-17

A special inspection was conducted at your Brunswick Unit 2 facility by NRC Region II Resident Inspectors between May 9 and June 9, 1983, to review the circumstances surrounding the inoperability of two condenser off gas radiation monitors during power operations on May 8-10, 1983. The detailed inspection findings were discussed with Brunswick facility management on June 10, 1983. Overall NRC concerns relating to the issue were expressed by the Region II Deputy Regional Administrator to senior management representatives of the Carolina Power and Light Company during an enforcement conference held at the Brunswick site on May 18, 1983.

Examples of weaknesses in the area of discipline of operations at your Brunswick facility were brought to your attention in our letters of February 18, 1983 and May 25, 1983. Inoperability of the condenser off gas radiation monitors, during power operations on May 8-10, 1983, represents another example of this type weakness. Your actions for correction of this specific problem were described in your letter of May 29, 1983. Your actions to programmatically eliminate our concerns were described in your Brunswick Improvement Program. This program was confirmed by the NRC in its Confirmatory Order dated December 12, 1982.

We recognize that the actual safety significance of inadvertent isolation of the radiation monitors was low because of the redundancy provided by the main steam line high radiation monitors. However, we remain concerned over events such as this one, particularly since control room indication of the radiation monitor inoperability was available to the operators during three consecutive work shifts. Our evaluation revealed this event to be a violation of your technical specifications. We have categorized the event as a Severity Level III violation; one usually resulting in a proposal for imposition of a civil penalty.

With regard to this event, we wish to recognize the prompt and extensive corrective actions described in your May 29, 1983 letter and as verified by our Inspectors. These actions demonstrate a distinct improvement in CP&L's management awareness of the necessity for immediate action when violations of NRC

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requirements are identified. In recognition of these efforts and the other ongoing efforts as described in the Brunswick Improvement Program, I have decided to exercise my discretion under the enforcement policy to fully mitigate this civil penalty. Accordingly, with the concurrence of the Director of the Office of Inspection and Enforcement, I have determined that no civil penalty should be proposed for this specific violation.

You are reminded that NRC will continue close monitoring and reporting of CP&L nuclear activities to ensure that no licensed operational activities are conducted without the required attention to detail and, that no relaxation of the implementation of your long term improvement plan occurs. Also, we will not hesitate to use the full authority of our Enforcement Policy in future cases.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, a copy of this letter and the enclosure will be placed in the NRC's Public Document Room.

The responses directed by this letter and the enclosures are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, PL 96-511.

Sincerely,

James P. O'Reilly
Regional Administrator

Enclosures:

1. Appendix A, Notice of Violation
2. Inspection Report
Nos. 50-324/83-17 and
50-325/83-17

cc w/encls:

C. R. Dietz, Plant Manager

bcc w/encls:

NRC Resident Inspector
Document Management Branch
State of North Carolina

RII
GNejfelt:gr
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RII *ca. for*
JMPuckett
7/8/83

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JOlshinski
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RII
RCLewis
6/11/83

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RDMartin
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