

December 30, 1982

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-82-141

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by the Region II staff on this date.

FACILITY: Florida Power & Light Company
St. Lucie Unit 1
Docket No. 50-335
Fort Pierce, Florida

Florida Power Corporation
Crystal River Unit 3
Docket No. 50-302
Crystal River, Florida

Licensee Emergency Classification:
 Notification of Unusual Event
 Alert
 Site Area Emergency
 General Emergency
 Not Applicable

SUBJECT: REACTOR TRIPS AND POWER OUTAGE

A reactor trip, followed by a turbine trip, occurred at 10:21 a.m. today at St. Lucie Unit 1 while surveillance testing was being performed on reactor trip breakers. With one trip circuit breaker racked out for inspection, the inverter failed, causing control rods to drop. The reactor trip followed. An electrical grid system imbalance brought about by the trip at St. Lucie caused the shutdown of a Florida Power & Light (FPL) fossil unit in northeast Florida and Florida Power Corporation's Crystal River Unit 3. Both St. Lucie and Crystal River were operating near full power. All safety systems responded as designed.

An estimated 500,000 customers on both the FPL and Florida Power Corporation systems lost electrical service as the result of the shutdowns. Most power was restored within 30 minutes. Work is now under way to return both the St. Lucie and Crystal River units to service today. The shutdowns did not affect FPL's Turkey Point Unit 3, where a reactor trip caused a power outage on December 28 (PNO-II-82-140).

Media interest has occurred. The licensees are responding to media inquiries. The NRC does not plan a news release, but will also respond to inquiries.

The State of Florida has been informed.

The NRC headquarters incident response center was informed of this occurrence by telephone from the licensee at 10:40 a.m. today.

Contact: K. D. Landis, RII 242-4198; H. C. Dance, RII 242-5533

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Regions: _____
Licensee: _____
(Reactor Licensees) 2700 (Both)
Applicable Resident Site 230 (Both)

DMB
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