

**Florida
Power**
CORPORATION

September 29, 1982
#3F-0982-20
File: 3-0-26

Mr. John F. Stolz, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #4
Division of Licensing
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Subject: Crystal River Unit 3
Docket No. 50-302
Operating License No. DPR-72
NUREG-0737, Item II.E.4.2 and Generic Item B-24
Containment Purging Duration

Dear Mr. Stolz:

In our letter dated July 26, 1982, Florida Power Corporation (FPC) committed to propose a yearly goal for containment purging time based on data collected during a 30-day test period which began on July 23, 1982. The primary results of the test are as follows:

1. The concentration of iodine 131 peaked at four (4) times the Maximum Permissible Concentration at the two week point.
2. Noble gas activity peaked at nearly one hundred (100) times the original baseline activity. This resulted in a beta submersion exposure increase from approximately 2 mrem/hr to 94 mrem/hr two weeks into the test.
3. An entry into the containment during the test period was required. Fourteen hours were required to accomplish a nominal six hour maintenance task. Because of the high airborne activity, ten workers were needed to do the same job that normally requires three workers. In addition the workers were subjected to ambient dry bulb air temperatures of 104°F versus the normal 90°F temperatures.
4. At the conclusion of the test period, purging was reestablished, and samples were drawn to determine total cleanup time. The reactor building reached, essentially, baseline values in approximately 48 hours.

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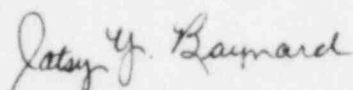
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In accordance with the test results as summarized above, FPC hereby proposes to limit purging operations to 1500 hours per year. This number assumes 48 hours of purge time every two weeks to allow for the regularly scheduled bi-weekly containment entry (1250 hours per year plus a 250 hour per year allowance for operational contingencies). This number only assumes negligible increases in reactor coolant system leaks and failed fuel.

Until such time that your concurrence to our proposed purging limit (1500 hours per year) is gained, we will continue to use purging as an available option. We do not intend to purge continuously but will use purging as a means to maintain a reasonable containment atmosphere. Within a reasonable period upon resolution of this issue, we will implement administrative controls (i.e., procedures) to track yearly purge times.

A related issue involves the proposed installation of debris screens on the inner-side of the inboard purge valves. FPC originally intended to submit design and installation schedules by August 31, 1982 (reference our letter dated July 8, 1982). These schedules were not submitted due to ongoing verbal discussions with your office regarding the continued use of purging due to valve performance under LOCA induced loadings. Therefore, FPC will temporarily hold this issue in abeyance. We will continue our dialogue regarding installation of debris screens until concurrence is reached on the continued availability of purging during Modes 1-4.

Very truly yours,



Dr. Patsy Y. Baynard
Assistant to Vice President
Nuclear Operations

KP/myf

cc: Mr. J.P. O'Reilly
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