



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 12, 1996

Mr. Percy M. Beard, Jr.
 Senior Vice President,
 Nuclear Operations (SA2A)
 Florida Power Corporation
 ATTN: Manager, Nuclear
 Licensing
 15760 W Power Line Street
 Crystal River, Florida 34428-6708

SUBJECT: CRYSTAL RIVER NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT UNIT 3 - POSTPONEMENT OF
 SURVEILLANCE OF EIGHT TENDONS EXEMPTED FROM THE FIFTH TENDON
 SURVEILLANCE (TAC NO. M94056)

Dear Mr. Beard:

By letter dated October 23, 1995, you requested staff approval for postponing surveillance of eight tendons which were exempted from the fifth tendon surveillance performed in 1993 to the sixth tendon surveillance. You had committed to include the eight tendons in your sixth tendon surveillance which was originally scheduled to be performed in 1996. You now propose to perform the sixth tendon surveillance in 1998 which is less than 5 years from the fifth tendon surveillance which was performed in November 1993. Accordingly, you are requesting staff approval to postpone the surveillance of the eight tendons to the 1998 sixth tendon surveillance.

By letter dated May 15, 1995, you submitted results of your fifth tendon surveillance to demonstrate integrity of the containment tendon system. In a letter dated July 28, 1995, we forwarded our evaluation of the Fifth Tendon Surveillance Report, and concluded that the trend of all groups of tendons is such that no group of tendons will go below its minimum required lift-off forces before the 40-year plant life. Our July 28, 1995 letter also identified certain undesirable conditions such as grease leakage, anchorage bearing plate corrosion, cracking and spalling of concrete. In response to these concerns, you committed to perform, during Refuel 10 (in 1996), a complete walkdown of 549 tendons comprising the containment post-tensioning system. You also committed to perform visual inspection to monitor external corrosion, grease leakage, and monitor for spalling of concrete and take appropriate corrective actions where warranted.

On the basis of the fifth tendon surveillance results and your commitment to perform visual inspection during the Refuel 10, we find it acceptable to perform the surveillance of the eight tendons during the sixth tendon surveillance scheduled for Refuel 11 in 1998, which is within the 5 year surveillance frequency.

In this matter, we also would like to draw your attention to the following. In November 1976, you performed the structural integrity test (SIT) on the Crystal River 3 (CR3) prestressed concrete containment. Per Regulatory Guide

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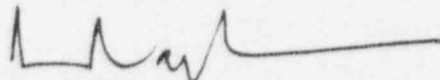
Mr. Percy M. Beard, Jr.

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(RG) 1.35, the tendon surveillances are to be performed 1, 3, and 5 years after SIT and every 5 years thereafter. You have committed to follow the RG 1.35 criteria. However, a review of the history of your tendon surveillance indicates that your 3rd, 4th and 5th tendon surveillances have been performed on an approximately 6-year interval. While plant technical specifications allow schedule flexibility (a 25% inspection interval extension for conducting surveillances), such a schedule extension should not be continued on a long-term basis. Also, the general industry practice has been a plus or minus 6 months schedule variance.

This completes our effort under TAC No. M94056 and the TAC is closed. If you have any questions, please call me at (301) 415-1471.

Sincerely,



L. Raghavan, Project Manager
Project Directorate II-1
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-302

cc: See next page

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Generating Plant

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