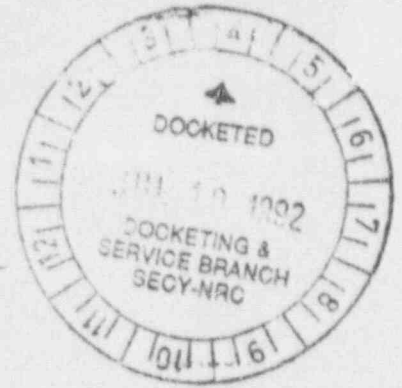


**Florida
Power**
CORPORATION

DOCKET NUMBER 98 50
PROPOSED RULE 50
(57FR15034)



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July 6, 1992
NL92-0081

Mr. Samuel J. Chilk
Secretary of the Commission
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

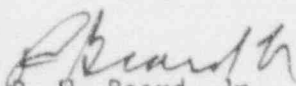
Attention: Docketing and Services Branch

Subject: Request for Comments on the "Receipt of
Byproduct and Special Nuclear Material"

Dear Sir:

Florida Power Corporation (FPC) hereby submits comments on the "Receipt of Byproduct and Special Nuclear Material." These comments are submitted in accordance with the Federal Register request (Vol. 57, 15,034) dated Friday, April 24, 1992.

Sincerely,


P. H. Beard, Jr.
Senior Vice President
Nuclear Operations

PMB/PHG:ff

Attachment

**FLORIDA POWER CORPORATION
NUCLEAR OPERATIONS
P.O. BOX 219
CRYSTAL RIVER, FLORIDA 32623-0219**

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Florida Power Corporation
Comments on Proposed Rule
"Receipt of Byproduct and Special Nuclear Material"
(57 Fed. Reg. 15,034 (April 24, 1992))

Florida Power Corporation has reviewed the proposed rule and strongly endorses its content. As proposed, this rulemaking is an appropriate and timely solution to an issue of national importance. As a licensee, we encourage you to expedite the finalization of this rulemaking to minimize the impact on waste generators and processors throughout the nation.

Florida Power Corporation has actively supported the Southeast Compact Commission for Low-Level Radioactive Waste Management in its effort to provide disposal capacity for the region's waste. Progress is being made by North Carolina to site the next regional disposal facility, but optimistic schedules indicate an operational date in early 1996. Although South Carolina has offered conditional acceptance of the region's waste after January 1, 1993, significant uncertainty exists as to the continued availability of a disposal option. In addition, many generators are located in states and compacts that may not have access to a disposal site after December 31, 1992. For these generators, on-site storage is a reality until a disposal option is available.

Under these circumstances, the ability of nuclear power licensees to receive back their own low-level radioactive waste (LLW) after off-site volume reduction or other processing is critical. This minor amendment would allow operating reactor licensees to continue their already substantial efforts to reduce LLW volumes, maximize the use of existing storage facilities, and minimize the need to develop new facilities with no adverse effect on the public health and safety.

The proposed rulemaking is an effective mechanism that will provide utilities the ability to follow an established NRC policy encouraging volume reduction of LLW (See 46 Fed. Reg. 51,100 (Oct. 6, 1981)). It is also the most efficient and cost-effective means of resolving a practical problem confronting power reactor licensees without jeopardizing public health or safety. This is particularly true when compared to the prospect of a 10 C.F.R. Part 50 license amendment request or a separate license request to receive such material under 10 C.F.R. Part 30.

Florida Power Corporation believes that the storage of LLW should only be used for the short-term management of LLW when disposal is interrupted. This rulemaking only allows waste to be stored in a processed state when disposal is unavailable and does not encourage long-term storage.

For the reasons we have indicated, Florida Power Corporation strongly endorses the proposed rule. We appreciate the opportunity to submit comments on this proposed rule and urge the NRC to promptly adopt the rule in final form.