

OCT 12 1984

Docket Nos. 50-325/324

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Mr. E. E. Utley
Executive Vice President
Carolina Power & Light Company
Post Office Box 1551
Raleigh, North Carolina 27062

Dear Mr. Utley:

SUBJECT: SPENT-FUEL POOL BUFFER ZONE (SFPBZ)

Re: Brunswick Steam Electric Plant Units 1 and 2

By letter dated September 25, 1984 you requested that the SFPBZ, (discussed in the Safety Evaluation related to reracking of the spent fuel pool issued by the staff on December 15, 1983) be designated as a 2 1/2-foot buffer zone adjacent to the work area.

By letter dated September 16, 1982 CP&L committed to maintain a buffer zone to the work area. The specific commitment by CP&L was that "during the modification process, spent fuel would be moved so that no spent fuel is located in the racks adjacent to the work area". In effect this meant that the buffer zone would not be less than 2 1/2 feet because, that is the width of the old half racks. That commitment was repeated in the staff Safety Evaluation dated December 15, 1983 related to the reracking of the spent fuel pool.

Subsequent to the commitment, a refueling outage has resulted in approximately 100 more spent fuel bundles being present during the reracking of the pool. As a result, some fuel will have to be transferred to the first new rack to permit installation of the second new rack. Because the two racks are adjacent to one another, CP&L cannot maintain a "one rack" buffer adjacent to the work zone. CP&L therefore proposes to modify its commitment and will maintain, adjacent to the work area, a 2 1/2-foot buffer area void of fuel.

We have re-reviewed our Safety Evaluation and your submittals dated April 16, 1981 and September 16, 1982. Based on our review, we find that it was the intent to provide a buffer zone adjacent to the work area. Based on a review of all the dimensions of all the fuel racks involved, the smallest buffer zone would be that provided by the old half racks, that is, 2 1/2 feet. Thus the commitment expressed in the September 16, 1982 letter would permit a minimum buffer zone of 2 1/2 feet. We find that your commitment

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as expressed in the September 25, 1984 letter, that is, to maintain, adjacent to the work area, a 2 1/2-foot buffer area void of fuel is acceptable.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:
Domenic B. Vassallo, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #2
Division of Licensing

cc:
See next page

DL:ORB#2
SNorris:jk
10/11/84

DL:ORB#2
MGrotenhuis
10/11/84

ASB for
OParr
10/12/84

DL:ORB#3
DVassallo
10/12/84

Mr. E. E. Utley
Carolina Power & Light Company
Brunswick Steam Electric Plant, Units 1 and 2

cc:

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