

50-302



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

April 24, 1996

(10 CFR § 2.206)

Louis D. Putney, Esq.  
4805 South Himes Avenue  
Tampa, Florida 33611-2616

Dear Mr. Putney:

I am acknowledging receipt of your letter dated March 28, 1996, sent on behalf of Barry L. Bennett, requesting action with regard to the Crystal River Nuclear Generating Plant (Crystal River) licensed by Florida Power Corporation (FPC). Your request is being treated as a petition under section 2.206 of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR 2.206).

Your Petition requests that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) investigate concerns regarding security deficiencies at Crystal River. You also request that, upon a determination that these concerns are valid, the NRC institute a proceeding to suspend or revoke the operating license of Crystal River pursuant to 10 CFR 2.202 until such time as these concerns are corrected.

As the basis for Mr. Bennett's request, you state that during his employment with SBI Inc., a company that provided contract nuclear security services for FPC, Mr. Bennett observed various security deficiencies at Crystal River. The petition describes four examples of these security concerns.

First, Mr. Bennett claims that Crystal River's compliance with one of its licensing requirements, maintaining a security program that would be effective against terrorist attack, is inadequate. Specifically, Mr. Bennett claims that the results of an unsuccessful Operational Security Response Effectiveness Security drill conducted in 1995 were never formally documented and reported to the NRC. Further, Mr. Bennett claims that the deficiencies revealed by the drill have never been corrected and thus the plant remains susceptible to terrorist attack.

Second, Mr. Bennett asserts that there is a pattern of lax security and failure to report security breaches at Crystal River. By way of example, Mr. Bennett claims that no security reports were filed on three separate incidents that occurred in 1995: (1) a guard was found asleep at Post 25, (2) a security lieutenant took his badge off site, and (3) a guard was found reading a book instead of watching three security zones as assigned.

Third, Mr. Bennett claims that FPC's current practice of using only one guard to monitor several protected zones or entrances to the protected area provides inadequate security.

Finally, Mr. Bennett claims that FPC intends to reduce its security force at Crystal River and that this plan would compromise security at the plant.

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Mr. Putney

- 2 -

April 24, 1996

Your petition has been referred to me pursuant to 10 CFR 2.206 of the Commission's regulations. As provided by 10 CFR 2.206, action will be taken on your request within a reasonable time. I have enclosed for your information a copy of the notice that is being filed with the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By  
WILLIAM T. RUSSELL

William T. Russell, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure: As stated

cc w/encl: FPC and Service List

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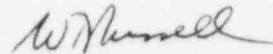
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Sincerely,



William T. Russell, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure: As stated

cc w/encl: FPC and Service List

Florida Power Corporation

Crystal River Unit No. 3  
Generating Plant

cc:

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