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U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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## **EVENT DESCRIPTION**

IRC Form 366A

Commencing August 30, 1985, Hurricane Elena threatened the northeast coast of the Gulf of Mexico where Crystal River Unit 3 (CR-3) is located. Upon notification of a hurricane warning by the National Weather Service, CR-3 declared an Unusual Event at 1800.

Watertight flood control doors were closed and the plant staff was augmented with additional operations and maintenance personnel. The center of the hurricane stalled approximately sixty miles off the coast for nearly two days before proceeding on a course away from the power plant. Sustained hurricane force winds or significant storm water surge was not encountered at CR-3. The plant continued to operate at forty-one percent reactor power while producing 331 megawatts electric throughout the storm. The Unusual Event was terminated at 1645 on September 1, 1985.

## SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

Neither nuclear safety nor the health of the public were affected during this event. Significant equipment damage did not occur, and the operation of CR-3 was not hampered.

CR-3 was designed to withstand hurricane force winds and storm water surges. The plant design provides for full protection against wind and tides for all components which must operate for a safe and orderly shutdown of the power plant.

## PREVIOUS SIMILAR EVENTS

During its operational lifetime, CR-3 has not previously experienced hurricane warning conditions.





September 27, 1985 3F0985-24

Document Control Desk U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555

Subject: Crystal River Unit 3 Docket No. 50-302 Operating License No. DPR-72 License · Event Report No. 85-017-00

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is Licensee Event Report (LER) No. 85-017-00 which is submitted in accordance with 10 CFR 50.73.

Should there be any questions, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

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G. R. Westafer Manager, Nuclear Operations Licensing and Fuel Management

AEF/feb

Enclosure

cc: Dr. J. Nelson Grace Regional Administrator, Region II Office of Inspection & Enforcement U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission 101 Marietta Street N.W., Suite 2900 Atlanta, GA 30323

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