Official

Docket Nos. 50-325, 50-324 License Nos. DPR-71, DPR-62

Carolina Power and Light Company
ATTN: Mr. E. E. Utley
Senior Executive Vice President
Power Supply and Engineering
and Construction
P. O. Box 1551

P. O. Box 1551 Raleigh, NC 27602

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: AUGMENTED INSPECTION TEAM REPORT NOS. 50-325/88-27 and 50-324/88-27

This refers to the special inspection conducted by the NRC Augmented Inspection Team (AIT) during the period July 16-22, 1988. The inspection included a review of the equipment failure that precipitated the shutdown of Unit 1 on July 13-15, 1988, and a review of those equipment failures that occurred during the shutdown and their impact on both units. At the conclusion of the inspection, a debrief on the inspection findings was conducted with members of your staff. A formal exit will be conducted with you and members of your staff on August 18, 1988.

The enclosed copy of the AIT report identifies the areas examined during this review. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observation of activities in progress.

The equipment failures reviewed by the AIT are, individually, not of high safety significance. However, the number of failures and the previous high failure rate of plant equipment indicates that management has tolerated operation of the facility with unreliable equipment. The AIT identified that not only does the licensee need to correct the pattern of equipment failures for the purpose of minimizing challenges to safety systems, but also needs to recognize the detrimental effects of unreliable equipment on operator morale and effectiveness.

The inspection findings also indicate that certain activities appeared to violate NRC requirements. The violation described in Section III.A of the enclosed report is under consideration for escalated enforcement action. Accordingly, a Notice of Violation is not enclosed and no response to this violation is required at this time. However, please be advised that the characterization of this violation may change as a result of further NRC review. An Enforcement Conference to discuss this violation is scheduled for September 8, 1988. You will be advised by separate correspondence of the results of our deliberations on this matter.

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In accordance with 10 CFR Part 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

We appreciate your cooperation during our team inspection and subsequent evaluation of the equipment failures related to the Unit 1 shutdown. Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact us.

Sincerely,

J. Nelson Grace Regional Administrator

Enclosure: AIT Inspection Report

cc w/encl:

M. A. McDuffie, Senior Vice President

P. W. Howe, Vice President Brunswick Nuclear Project

J. L. Harness, Plant General Manager

bcc w/encl:

NRC Resident Inspector Document Control Desk

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AUGMENTED INSPECTION TEAM

REPORT NOS. 50-325/88-27 AND 50-324/88-27

Licensee: Carolina Power and Light Company

P. O. Box 1551 Raleigh, NC 27602

Docket Nos.: 50-325 and 50-324

License Nos: DPR-71 and DPR-62

Facility Name: Brunswick Units 1 and 2

Inspection Members: B. C. Buckley, Project Manager, NRR

C. A. Casto, License Examiner, RII E. N. Fields, Reactor Engineer, NRR P. J. Fillion, Reactor Inspector, RI

P. J. Fillion, Reactor Inspector, RII L. W. Garner, Senior Resident Inspector, RII R. L. Lloyd, Reactor Operations Engineer, AEOD H. K. Shaw, Senior Mechanical Engineer, NRR

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Team Leader:

P. E. Fredrickson, Chief Projects Section 1A, RII Date Signed