

January 9, 1986

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-86-04

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by the Region II staff on this date.

FACILITY: Florida Power & Light Company
St. Lucie Unit 1
Docket No. 50-335
Fort Pierce, Florida

Licensee Emergency Classification:
 Notification of Unusual Event
 Alert
 Site Area Emergency
 General Emergency
 Not Applicable

SUBJECT: REPORTED PERSONNEL OVEREXPOSURE

Region II has sent a radiation specialist to the St. Lucie site to review the circumstances of an apparent radiation overexposure of a contractor employee. Florida Power & Light (FPL) informed the NRC senior resident inspector on January 7 that a higher than expected exposure had occurred to an individual who had been cleaning sludge out of one of the St. Lucie Unit 1 steam generators in late November and early December.

The employee stood on the steam generator platform and performed the sludge lancing operation by alternately sticking one arm, then the other, through the handhold into the steam generator. He wore his whole-body thermoluminescent dosimeter (TLD) on the upper part of the arm and an extremity TLD on the hand entering the steam generator. But no other whole-body TLD was provided, and the whole-body TLD was not read after each steam generator arm entry.

When the whole-body TLD was read on December 3, that reading, combined with the individual's previous exposure for the quarter, showed that the worker had received a total exposure of 3.109 rem for the calendar quarter, an amount which exceeds NRC regulatory limits.

FPL is prepared to respond to media inquiries.

The State of Florida has been informed.

This information is current as of 10 a.m. (EST) today.

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D. M. Collins, 242-5586

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