



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Office of Public Affairs, Region II
61 Forsyth Street SW, Atlanta GA 30303
Web Site: www.nrc.gov

No. II-10-005

CONTACT: Roger Hannah (404) 562-4417
Joey Ledford (404) 562-4416

February 10, 2010

E-mail: OPA2@nrc.gov

NRC SCHEDULES REGULATORY CONFERENCE WITH FPL TO DISCUSS ST. LUCIE NUCLEAR PLANT INSPECTION FINDINGS

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has scheduled a regulatory conference with Florida Power & Light Co. officials on Friday, Feb. 19, in Atlanta to discuss inspection findings at the St. Lucie nuclear power plant, located near Ft. Pierce, Fla.

NRC and FPL officials will discuss the significance of findings related to the apparent failure to identify and correct design issues which allowed air into a Unit 1 cooling water system. Air in that system could potentially diminish the capability to cool plant safety equipment.

The NRC evaluates regulatory performance at commercial nuclear power plants with a color-coded system which classifies findings as green, white, yellow or red, in increasing order of safety significance. The NRC's preliminary evaluation determined that the two potential violations at St. Lucie are "greater than green," meaning they have more than very low safety significance.

No decisions on the final safety significance, any apparent violations or possible enforcement action will be made at the conference. That decision will be made by NRC officials at a later time.

The regulatory conference is scheduled for 2 p.m. EST in the NRC's Region II office, located on the 24th floor of the Atlanta Federal Center at 61 Forsyth Street SW in Atlanta. The public is invited to observe and will have an opportunity to talk with NRC officials after the business portion of the meeting. Persons wishing to participate in this meeting by toll-free audio teleconference should contact the NRC's Binoy Desai at 404-562-4519 or binoy.desai@nrc.gov.

The NRC letter announcing the meeting and the inspection report detailing the findings are publicly available online at www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams/web-based.html. The numbers to access the letter and report are ML100351155 and ML100210081 respectively.

###