

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
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NRC DISPATCHES SPECIAL INSPECTION TEAM TO ST. LUCIE
TO REVIEW CIRCUMSTANCES ASSOCIATED WITH TAMPERING EVENT

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has dispatched a special inspection team to the St. Lucie nuclear power plant, operated by Florida Power & Light Company near Ft. Pierce, Florida, to review circumstances associated with an event the company identified and reported on August 14 involving injection of a glue-like substance into the locks of three key-operated switches located in a restricted area of the plant.

NRC officials said the company took immediate steps to secure the plant and prevent similar acts. The company also replaced the locks, located on a device called a remote shutdown panel, the same day.

The NRC inspectors are scheduled to arrive at St. Lucie on Monday, August 19 to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the company's response to the event.

The team will be made up of NRC managers and inspectors from the agency's headquarters in Washington, D.C. and its Region II office in Atlanta. The team leader is Kenneth P. Barr, a branch chief in the Atlanta office's Division of Reactor Safety.

A final, unclassified report on the team's findings is scheduled to be completed by before the end of September.

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