

FBI probes nuclear reactor hole

Sounds like an accident coupled with lack of quality control over non-company workers.

BBC

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The FBI says it "has a few leads"

A Florida energy company has called in the FBI and offered a \$100,000 reward to try and find out who drilled a hole in one of its nuclear power stations.

Workers at Florida Power and Light found the small hole when doing pre-start up tests on a reactor at the Turkey Point Unit Three power plant. It had been drilled – inadvertently or deliberately – into a cooling system pipe for one of its nuclear reactors.

Florida Power has now repaired the damage and plans to restart the unit. "At no time was the public's safety at risk," said an FBI statement. It is now investigating the damage, along with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

A Florida Power spokeswoman said that the company thought the hole was produced intentionally, but didn't know if it was a case of human error or a deliberate act of sabotage. The reactor had been shut down for routine maintenance, but many of the contractors hired to work on the plant have since left the site and might not know about the problem. "This way they will certainly hear about it," the spokeswoman told Reuters.