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Rules and Directives

June 30, 2003

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68 FR 32558

(1)

Chief
Rules Review and Directives Branch
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop T6-D59
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

**RE: EPA Review and Comments on
Final Generic Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (FGSEIS)
License Renewal of Nuclear Plants, Supplement 11
Regarding St. Lucie Units 1 & 2
CEQ No. 030242**

Dear Chief:

Thank you for submitting the above-referenced document. EPA Region 4 reviewed the Final Generic Supplemental EIS (FGSEIS) pursuant to Section 309 of the Clean Air Act and Section 102 (2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The purpose of this letter is to provide the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) with EPA's comments regarding potential impacts of the proposed renewal of the St. Lucie Units 1 & 2 Operating Licenses (OLs).

Florida Power and Light Company (FPL) submitted an application to renew the Operating Licenses (OLs) for St. Lucie Units 1 & 2 for an additional 20 years. The proposed action, (license renewal), would provide for continued operation and maintenance of existing facilities and transmission lines.

Based on the review of the FGSEIS, some remaining environmental concerns exist regarding aspects of the proposed project. The FGSEIS states that renewal of the OLs would result in fewer environmental impacts than the feasible alternatives for generating power. The document also acknowledges that continuing operation of Units 1 and 2 will require radiological monitoring of all plant effluents. Appropriate storage of radioactive wastes on-site is required, in order to prevent impacts. Ultimately, long-term radioactive waste disposition will require transportation of wastes to a permitted repository site. The FGSEIS notes that on-site impacts from continuing operations of Units 1 and 2 are small. Overall, the impacts as defined in the FGSEIS appear to be within acceptable limits.

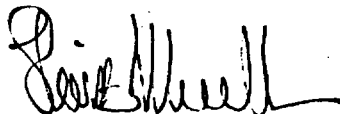
E-RFS = ADM-03

add = M. Masnik (MTM2)

Template = ADM-013

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this document. If we can be of further assistance, please contact Ramona McConney of my staff at (404) 562-9615.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Heinz J. Mueller". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Heinz J. Mueller, Chief
Office of Environmental Assessment