

TurkeyPointCEm Resource

From: cynthia benkert [cynthiabenkert@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2015 3:37 PM
To: TurkeyPointCOLEIS Resource
Subject: Attn: NRC-2009-0337 -- No New Reactors at Turkey Point

Dear Chief Bladley,

I am writing in opposition to the proposed expansion of Turkey Point Power Plant in Homestead, Florida. The proposed construction site is located directly on the shores of Biscayne National Park in an area that's extremely susceptible to sea-level rise and the storm surges that will come with climate change. And an expansion of Turkey Point could jeopardize the area's limited freshwater resources as well as sensitive habitat for a wide range of federally protected endangered species.

Like so many Americans, I love our national parks, which preserve our country's incredible landscapes and waters, wildlife and opportunities for exploration. Biscayne National Park is one of these irreplaceable national treasures. According to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's own rules, "sites adjacent to lands devoted to public use may be considered unsuitable," and unacceptable impacts are "most apt to arise in areas adjacent to natural-resource-oriented areas." How then can this project proceed when there are two national parks, an aquatic preserve, a wetland preserve and a national wildlife refuge within six miles of the proposed expansion site?

As you know operating two new reactors at Turkey Point could also have huge impacts on the quantity and quality of the area's limited freshwater supplies. The withdrawal of massive amounts of water from under Biscayne National Park as backup cooling water could increase salinity levels within the bay and hasten saltwater intrusion into the aquifer.

And finally, expanding a nuclear power plant in an area that's ground zero for sea level rise puts South Florida at unacceptable risk. For all these reasons, I urge you to deny the proposed expansion at Turkey Point and protect the region's people and unparalleled natural resources.

Sincerely,

cynthia benkert
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