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Notice of Receipt and Availability of Application for a Combined License

Comment On: NRC-2009-0337-0020

Combined License Application for Turkey Point Nuclear Plant, Unit Nos. 6 and 7; Draft Environmental Impact Statement

Document: NRC-2009-0337-DRAFT-0128

Comment on FR Doc # 2015-05099

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General Comment

Dear Regulators:

Please do not approve the application for two new nuclear reactors, Unit Nos. 6 and 7, at the Turkey Point Nuclear Power Plant. This project should not be allowed to move forward, in part, because it will irrevocably change and put at risk two of Floridas most important public lands and wildlife habitats the Biscayne National Park and the Everglades National Park.

There is nothing safe about two new 1,117 megawatt nuclear reactors being built on Floridas east coast, especially because they will be cooled by 90 million gallon per day of recycled Miami-Dade County sewage and wastewater. This water will not be pure water and some will be released over Biscayne Bay and surrounding wetlands along with steam in the planned cooling towers. Aerosol droplets known as "drift" can travel far and contain pharmaceuticals, cleaners, detergents and other household chemicals, as well as viruses and bacteria (which can grow inside the cooling towers themselves as bacterial slime). Impacts on the human environment as well as on dozens of endangered and threatened species in the vicinity are largely unknown.

Consider, too, that Biscayne Bay is ground zero for the landfall of hurricanes. In 1992 Turkey Point sustained a

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direct hit from Hurricane Andrew. According to the NRC's own report: "The onsite damage included loss of all offsite power for more than 5 days, complete loss of communication systems, closing of the access road, and damage to the fire protection and security systems and warehouse facilities...the high water tank collapsed onto the fire water system, rendering the fire protection system inoperable. In addition, the storm threatened safety-related equipment (e.g., potential collapse of the damaged Unit 1 chimney onto the diesel generator building)." In other words, South Florida dodged a very big bullet in 1992. There is no need to build more risk in this hurricane-prone location.

Consider, too, that Biscayne Bay is at risk for sea-level rise. The low-lying wetlands that surround Turkey Point contain some of the lowest elevations in South Florida. Even a half-foot of sea level rise will be enough to inundate the 5,000 acres of canals used to cool the two reactors currently operating at this location. They are filled with hot and extremely salty water as well as chemicals used to kill a recent algae outbreak in the canals. With scientists measuring ever-increasing sea-level rise from the melting of our planet's remaining ice in addition to thermal expansion due to increased temperatures, six inches of sea level rise are a certainty. New nuclear reactors in this location will be sitting on islands in Biscayne Bay quite possibly in the not so distant future.

In addition to the highly dangerous nuclear fuel in the reactor cores, I'm also deeply concerned about the thousands of pounds of spent radioactive fuel rods being stored on the shores of Biscayne Bay. There is no long term safe storage on the horizon. Two new reactors mean that increasing amounts of spent nuclear fuel rods containing uranium-235, plutonium, and other dangerous radioactive materials will be accumulating in a known hurricane lane as well as a flood zone for decades to come. The tragedy of Fukushima should have been the last word on building nuclear plants in vulnerable coastal locations like this one.

Included in the project application are three new sets of power lines, some 15 stories tall, that will cut across the Everglades National Park. Expected impacts include: increased electrocutions and collisions for birds; the spread of invasive plant species along a new, drivable access corridor; changes to the hydrology of the Shark River Slough due to tower pads and road construction; and a new, unsightly, industrial landscape, visible for miles, in the heart of the Everglades, one of Florida's most profitable and popular wilderness areas.

On a final note, this investment of more than 20 billion dollars of the rate-payers money makes no logical sense. Solar power was not considered a viable alternative by the NRC reviewers - even though no state in the eastern half of the U.S. has the solar potential of Florida. FPL should drop this risky project and instead embrace a solar alternative that the company knows its customers want. Solar contains virtually none of the risk of its proposed Turkey Point expansion and will contribute to both the ecological and economic sustainability of our region for years to come.

I urge you to deny the permit for building reactors #6 and #7. Furthermore, please consider decommissioning Turkey point and transporting the spent fuel rods to a safe storage site.

Very truly yours,

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