

January 26, 2000 3F0100-08

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Attn: Document Control Desk Washington, DC 20555-0001

Subject: Annual Sea Turtle Report Submitted to the U. S. National Marine Fisheries Service

(TAC No. MA1706)

Dear Sir:

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and the Crystal River Energy Complex completed an Endangered Species Act Section 7 formal consultation process in 1999. In the Biological Opinion issued by the NMFS, terms and conditions were included requesting an annual report to NMFS of all sea turtle takes, including species, size, and time of year taken.

The attached report, being provided to NMFS for the year ending December 31, 1999, shows that there were 9 live sea turtle strandings in 1999 and no lethal takes. This is within the biennial limit of 50 live sea turtle strandings for 1999-2000.

If you have any questions regarding this submittal, please contact Mr. Sid Powell, Manager, Nuclear Licensing at (352) 563-4883.

Sincerely.

S. L. Bernhoft

Director, Nuclear Regulatory Affairs

SLB/smg

Attachment

xc: Regional Administrator, Region II

Senior Resident Inspector NRR Project Manager



Florida
Power
CORPORATION
Crystal River Unit 3
Docket No. 50-302
Operating License No. DPR-72

January 26, 2000 NL00-0007

U.S. National Marine Fisheries Service South East Regional Office Attn: Assistant Regional Administrator Protected Resources Division 9721 Executive Center Dr, Suite 102 St. Petersburg, FL 33707

Subject: Annual Sea Turtle Report

Dear Sir:

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and the Crystal River Energy Complex (CREC) completed an Endangered Species Act Section 7 formal consultation process in 1999. In the Biological Opinion issued by the NMFS, terms and conditions were included requesting an annual report of all sea turtle takes, including species, size, and time of year taken.

The attached report provides information for the year ending December 31, 1999, and shows that there were 9 live sea turtle strandings in 1999 and no lethal takes. This is within the biennial limit of 50 live sea turtle strandings for 1999-2000. In addition, the NMFS requested notification of implementation of any NMFS conservation recommendations. The NMFS recommendation to establish a sea turtle tagging program in conjunction with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) has been implemented. CREC completed training with the FWC and began sea turtle tagging on December 29, 1999.

If you have any questions regarding this submittal, please contact Mr. Steve Garry, Supervisor, Environmental and Radiological Compliance at (352) 563-4777.

Sincerely,

S. L. Bernhoft

Director, Nuclear Regulatory Affairs

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SLB/smg

Attachment

xc: Allen Foley, FWC

CRYSTAL RIVER ENERGY COMPLEX SEA TURTLE RESCUE AND RECOVERY SUMMARY 1999

Date	Species	*Size	FPC No.	Comments
02/29/99	Kemp's ridley Lepidochelys kempii	25.0	99CR3-001	Captured live. No external signs of injury. Released at Yankeetown.
03/05/99	Kemp's ridley Lepidochelys kempii	31.9	99CR3-002	Captured live. Transferred to Clearwater Marine Aquarium. Soft tissue areas appear splotchy – evidence of skin infection.
03/15/99	Kemp's ridley Lepidochelys kempii	31.4	99CR3-003	Captured live at Units 1&2. Transferred to Clearwater Marine Aquarium. Piece of carapace missing from boat strike. Wound several days old.
03/25/99	Kemp's ridley Lepidochelys kempii	31.9	99CR3-004	Captured live. Transferred to Clearwater Marine Aquarium. Soft tissue areas brownish/sloughing off – skin condition.
04/12/99	Kemp's ridley Lepidochelys kempii	29.2	99CR3-005	Captured live. No external signs of injury. Released at Yankeetown.
06/04/99	Loggerhead Caretta caretta	60	99CR3-006	Captured live. Transferred to Clearwater Marine Aquarium. Severe trauma from boat strike.
11/18/99	Green Turtle Chelonia mydas	42.7	99CR3-007	Captured live. Transferred to Clearwater Marine Aquarium. Fibropapillomas covering much of soft tissue. Rear flipper missing (old injury).
12/16/99	Loggerhead Caretta caretta	78.1	99CR3-008	Captured live. Transferred to Clearwater Marine Aquarium. Severe trauma from boat strike. Injuries estimated 1 week old.
12/26/99	Kemp's ridley Lepidochelys kempii	34.3	99CR3-009	Captured live. Tagged (M2302, M2303). Released in area of discharge canal due to cold ambient water temperature.

^{*} Size is curved carapace length in centimeters.