UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

***

TURKEY POINT UNITS 3 & 4

ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING MEETING FOR

LICENSE RENEWAL

***

PUBLIC MEETING

Harris Field Complex - Homestead YMCA

1034 Northeast 8th Street

Homestead, Florida

Wednesday, December 6, 2000

The above-entitled meeting commenced, pursuant to notice, at 7:00 p.m.

BEFORE: CHIP CAMERON, Special Counsel

APPEARANCES:

CINDY CARPENTER

CHRISTOPHER GRIMES

RAJ AULUCK

JIM WILSON

MARK ONCAVAGE

BOB HOVEY

LIZ THOMPSON

MARY FINLAN

RUBEN ROTHSCHILD

BETTY THOMAS

ANGIE HOWARD

DAVID BALCH

COLONEL COMBER

P R O C E E D I N G S

MR. CAMERON: Good evening everybody. Welcome to the NRC's public meeting on the preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement for the application by Florida Power & Light to renew the licenses for Turkey Point Units 3 and 4.

We are going to have a little bit of competition from the kids, but at least we know somebody is having fun over here. They will be done at 8:00 o'clock. So we'll just try to struggle through.

My name is Chip Cameron, and I'm the Special Counsel for Public Liaison in the Office of General Counsel at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. It's my pleasure to serve as your Facilitator for tonight.

I just want to cover three things with you briefly. One is objective in the meeting, secondly, what the format and ground rules are for the meeting, and third, just go through the agenda and introduce some people to you.

If you haven't signed in with the NRC staff at the desk to get future publications and notifications, please do that before you leave tonight.

In terms of objectives of the meeting, the NRC wants to provide you with information on the license renewal physically, on the Environmental Impact Analysis part of that process, including how you can participate in the

license renewal and the Environmental Impact Statement preparation process.

We also want to listen to your comments, your concerns, and your advice on potential environmental impacts that might result from a renewal of the license at Turkey Point. In this regard, tonight's meeting which is a term that's used in connection with the preparation of Environmental Impact Statements. The Environmental Impact Statement is going to assist the NRC in evaluating whether to grant the license renewal application. Scoping is a way for the Commission, the NRC, to early on in the process, get information from the community about what types of environmental impacts should be looked at in the Environmental Impact Statements, so your comments tonight can be influential in preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement.

We are taking written comments from the public and you'll hear about the deadline for that on these scoping issues, but we wanted to be here in person with you tonight to discuss these issues. You may hear things tonight that will help you to prepare any written comments that you want to file. You will also be able to hear what others in the community feel about the license renewal issue. Your oral comments will be treated with the same weight as the written comments. So please offer them even if you're not going to

file any written comments.

Our format is going to be some brief presentations by the NRC staff to give you some background on license renewal to make sure that you understand that process. We're going to go out after the NRC presentations to see if you have any questions.

We've had some people sign up in advance. I think we've had some people tonight, and if you do want to speak tonight, please give your name to the NRC staff out there and we'll get you into the mix.

We are probably going to have enough time in the 7:00 until 10:00 period to cover everybody who wants to talk, but one ground rule that I would like us to follow is to try to be concise so that we can make sure that everybody has a chance to speak tonight. As a general ground rule, please try to keep your comments to approximately five, six, seven minutes -- something like that and I think we're going to be fine.

When we get to question and answers, signal me if you have a question and I'll call on you. Please give your name and affiliation if appropriate.

We are taking a transcript. Our stenographer, Lauren is going to be doing that for us and that will be available on the NRC web site. If you don't have access to the web let us know and we'll see if we can get a hard copy

of the transcript to you if you are interested.

Now when we're in the presentation part of it -- in other words, when you're telling the NRC staff what you think about the issues, the NRC staff is going to be listening. They are not going to be responding to your statements, but what you say is going to be considered by the NRC staff in their development of the Environmental Impact Statement. We also realize that there may be a lot of concerns out here beyond the license renewal; beyond the Environmental Impact Statements, and although we're always willing to listen to people's concerns, we do want to focus on the environmental impact. So that's our first order of business.

What I'd like to do now is to use the agenda to just give you an idea of who is here from the NRC staff that is going to be speaking to you. In about two minutes Cindy Carpenter, who is the Branch Chief of the Generic Issues, Environmental, Financial, and Rulemaking Branch at the NRC, is going to give a brief welcome to you.

Cindy's branch and the people who work for her are the ones that are responsible for overseeing the preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement for license renewal generally, and specifically for Turkey Point Units 3 and 4.

To Cindy's left is Chris Grimes. Chris is also a Branch Chief at the License Renewal and Standardization

Branch. Chris' branch evaluates the safety issues that are associated with license renewal. They take the Environmental Impact Statement that Cindy's branch prepares and integrate that with the safety findings and with inspection findings and make a recommendation on renewal of the license that then goes to the Commission for their review.

We're going to give you an overview of license renewal so you know how this Environmental Impact Statement fits into it. To give you that overview we're going to go to Raj Auluck who is right here. He is the Project Manager for the Safety Evaluation of the license renewal at Turkey Point.

We'll then go on to you for questions and answers and then we're going to go Jim Wilson, who is in Cindy's branch. Jim is the Project Manager for the environmental side of the license renewal at Turkey Point. He'll tell you about that Environmental Impact Statement process. Hopefully, this will all be clear to you and it won't be confusing.

I think what I'd like to do now is to turn it over to Cindy Carpenter to say a few words to us.

MS. CARPENTER: Thank you very much. Good evening. Thank you very much for coming. As Chip said, my name is Cindy Carpenter and I am the Branch Chief for the

Generic Issues, Environmental, Financial, and Rulemaking Branch in the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation at the NRC.

We're here today to talk about the environmental review that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is undertaking as a result of Florida Power & Light Company's application to renew their operating licenses for Turkey Point Units 3 and 4.

We'll talk a little bit about the statutory requirements for this action, the purpose of the review, the process that we go through, and then the schedule that we're working on. More importantly, we will provide you with the opportunity to give us input on the scope of our environmental review or to ask any questions about something that you've heard about today.

To provide you with some background, Turkey Point is the first Westinghouse reactor and Florida Power & Light is the fifth company to apply for license renewal. The operating licenses for Turkey Point will currently expire in 2012 for Unit 3, and 2013 for Unit 4.

As will be discussed later, the Atomic Energy Act allows a licensee such as Florida Power & Light to renew its license for up to 20 years. Part of the license renewal process requires the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to systematically consider the environmental impacts during its

decision-making process in this matter.

Florida Power & Light submitted its license renewal application on September 11th of this year. We accepted it for review on October 12. We issued our Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement on October 24. On that same day we began our comment period during which we received comments from members of the public on the scope of our environmental review. These comments help the staff determine whether it should focus its review on any particular technical area, while determining the acceptability of the environmental aspects of the Turkey Point license renewal. That brings us to why we're here today.

The purpose of today's meeting is, we plan to describe the environmental review process for you. We will identify environmental areas that the NRC staff typically evaluates. We'll provide the review schedule for our environmental review, and we'll accept any comments that you'll have today. We'll also explain to you how to submit comments before the end of the comment period.

Before we go into the details of the NRC's environmental review, I'll turn the podium over to Mr. Christopher Grimes. As Chip said, he is the Branch Chief of the License Renewal and Standardization Branch. He'll provide an overview of the license renewal process. Thank

you.

MR. GRIMES: Thank you, Cindy. Cindy has described the purpose of tonight's meeting and she's described the purpose of the environmental review and the need for us to reach out and find out what the public interests are in the license renewal process.

I'd like to step back and provide a framework so that you'll understand the overall NRC activities and how the license renewal review is going to be conducted.

I'd like to start by describing the NRC's fundamental mission, which is to protect public health and safety, protect the environment, and promote the common defense and security. This mission is described in the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974, as well as amendments to those acts and other legislation involving security, waste, and energy policies. The NRC's regulations are issued under Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations. We will refer to that throughout tonight's discussion as 10 CFR for short.

The NRC establishes requirements for nuclear power plant design and operation as well as limits for radiological exposures and releases. It then enforces those requirements to achieve our mission. Environmental protection is achieved by those requirements, however, we also perform environmental impact evaluations which we will

describe today, that achieve the environmental protection mission of the National Environmental Policy Act, which we refer to as NEPA; N-E-P-A.

For commercial power reactors, the NRC's regulatory functions include licensing. A nuclear power plant license is based on a set of established regulatory requirements to ensure that the design and proposed operation are safe based on radiological safety standards. Those requirements also include provisions for a security program to safeguard safety-related equipment and nuclear materials.

NRC conducts routine inspections to ensure that the plant design and operation conform to the license requirements, and enforcement actions are taken in the event that the license requirements are not being satisfied.

I'd now like to introduce Raj Auluck, who is the Safety Project Manager for the Turkey Point license renewal application. He is going to describe the license renewal process. Raj --

MR. AULUCK: Thank you, Chris. The Atomic Energy Act and NRC Regulations limit commercial power reactor licenses to 40 years, but also permit the renewal of such licenses for up to an additional 20-year period.

The 40-year term was originally selected on the basis of economic and antitrust considerations, not

technical limitations. Once the license term was established, the design of several system and structural components were engineered on the basis of an expected 40-year service life. The safety requirements for the initial 40-year license are contained in 10 CFR, Part 50. Next slide, please.

When the first reactors were constructed, major components were expected to last at least 40 years. Operating experience has demonstrated that expectation was unrealistic for some major plant components such as steam generators and a pressurized water reactor.

However, research conducted since 1982 and plant operating experience have demonstrated that there are no technical limitations to the plant life, since major components and structures can be replaced or reconditioned. Thus, a plant life is determined primarily by economic factors.

As it is observed, the NRC established regulatory requirements in 10 CFR, Part 54 to provide for license renewal. The rule which was initially issued in 1991 and amended in 1995, states that the basis on which a plant was originally licensed remains valid after 40 years and can be carried over to another 20-year period of extended operation.

The rule requires that an applicant demonstrate

that applicable aging effects will be adequately managed by the defined scope of passive long-life systems, structures, and components.

The Commission determines that aging for active components is adequately managed by existing maintenance and service programs, and other aspects of existing license requirements can continue through the license extension period. The rule also requires that certain time-dependent design analysis be identified and evaluated.

A new license can be granted upon the finding by the Commission that actions have been or will be taken so that there is a reasonable assurance that applicable aging effects will be adequately managed for a period of extended operation, and whether or not at worst, environmental impacts of license renewal are so great that reserving the option of license renewal for energy-planning decision makers would be unreasonable. Next slide, please.

The United States currently receives about 20% of its electricity from 103 operating nuclear power plants. The Lake City sector is moving rapidly to a deregulated market in which energy supply choices will be dictated by cost to the consumer. At the same time, there are growing pressures to limit fossil fuel emissions because of continuing concerns about cleaner air and potential global climate changes.

Deregulation and competition have raised the interest in license renewal to strategic importance, because large generating plants become vital economic assets to the plant owners. Operating nuclear plants are expected to remain competitive, operative, and to consider restructuring provided that the cost associated with operating the plant safely and efficiently can be reasonable projected.

Some currently operating U.S. plants will not apply for license renewal for economic reasons. The NRC established the license renewal requirements so that any plant that is financially and materially capable of operating safely beyond the current term of the license, should have that opportunity and clearly understand the requirements for such extended operation as described in the Generic Environmental Impact Statement for license renewal.

Calvert Cliffs in Maryland, was the first plant to apply for license renewal. Their application was submitted in April 1998, and a renewed license was granted in March 2000. The renewal application for Turkey Point for Units 3 and 4 was submitted on September 11,2000, as was mentioned earlier. Operating licenses for Units 3 and 4 will expire in the years 2012 and 2013 respectively.

Many are interested in license renewal today to ensure that they clearly understand what requirements will be necessary for an extended license and for future

financial planning. Next slide, please.

The licensing process consists of parallel safety, and environmental reviews which will be documented in a Safety Evaluation Report for the aging-management aspects of the renewal application and a Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement for the Environmental Impact Review. The aging-management findings in the NRC staff safety evaluation will be verified by NRC inspections.

The renewal application and safety evaluation will also be reviewed by the NRC's Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards in accordance with the usual practice for issuing of a license.

The NRC plans to complete a Safety Evaluation Report for the Turkey Point Units 3 and 4 renewal application, which will address the scope of passive, long-current systems structures and components, the applicable aging effects, and the aging-management programs that Florida Power & Light Company will rely on to ensure that the plant is safely maintained for the period of extended operation.

The issued report will identify any open items and appropriate matters related to the safety review under PART 54 that must be resolved before the Commission can complete its decision on the renewed license. That report will be available to the public.

The NRC's licensing process includes a formal process for public involvement through hearings conducted by a panel of administrative law judges who work for the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board. That process allows public hearings on pertinent issues to be litigated by the board. There are two petitions on the Turkey Point Units 3 and 4 renewal application from Mr. Mark Oncavage and Ms. Joette Lorion.

An Atomic Safety Licensing Board has recently been established to preside over the proceedings. In an order issued on November 27, the Commission directed the board to decide within 90 days whether the two petitions for hearing will be granted. If a hearing is granted, the Commission has ordered the board to set a schedule for conducting the hearing with the goal to issue a Commission decision on the license renewal application in about 30 months.

The Commission believes this schedule is timely and achievable. The Commission also ordered that. We do not expect the Licensing Board to sacrifice fearless and solemn decision making to expedite any hearing granted on this application.

Separate from the hearing process, interested members of the public who are concerned about nuclear safety issues can raise those issues informally during the various public meetings that the NRC will hold with Florida Power &

Light to discuss the safety aspects of the proposed extended plant operation.

Time is usually provided at the conclusion of each meeting for public comments and questions. Meetings on particular technical issues are usually held at NRC headquarters in Rockville, Maryland. However, some technical meetings, and meetings to summarize the results of the NRC's inspection findings will be held near the plant site in a place that is accessible to the public.

Turkey Point Units 3 and 4 renewal application, Safety Evaluation Report, meeting summaries, and other related correspondence are available for public review at NRC's Public Document Room in Rockville, or at NRC's Electronic Public Document Room at the web site www.nrc.gov. Many of these materials can also be found on NRC's web site under the address of license renewal.

Paper copies of the application, reports, and significant correspondence are available at the local Homestead Branch Library, located at 700 N. Homestead Boulevard, in Homestead, Florida.

The Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, which is also called the ACRS, performs an independent review of the renewal application and the safety evaluation, and they report their findings and recommendations directly to the Commission. They also hold public meetings. Oral

and written statements can be provided during the ACRS Meetings in accordance with the instructions described in their Notice of Meetings in the Federal Register.

At the end of the process, the Final Safety Evaluation Report, the Final Supplement to the Environmental Impact Statement, the results of the inspections, and the ACRS recommendations are submitted to the Commission with a staff recommendation. These documents and any other formal Commission meeting to discuss the staff's recommendations are also accessible to the public.

Each Commissioner will vote on the proposed action and their decisions are formally sent to the NRC staff, on whatever action they conclude is appropriate for the renewal application. The individual Commissioner votes and their instructions to the NRC staff are also public records.

Throughout the NRC's review of the license renewal application, the NRC continues to conduct regular inspections and amendments to the current license. The NRC's inspections and plant performance reviews are evolving with the NRC's initiators to improve the reactor oversight process.

If you are interested in learning more about the reinspection and the oversight process, there is information available on NRC's web page and in the brochures outside this meeting room.

The normal regulatory process and amendments to the existing license will continue in parallel with the renewal application and address matters of interest such as operational events, spent-fuel storage, security, and emergency plans.

That concludes my prepared statements. Are there any questions on the process?

MR. CAMERON: Do we have any questions? Okay. Then Mark, if you could again, just identify yourself for the transcription.

MR. ONCAVAGE: Yes. I am Mark Oncavage. Mr. Auluck, as I continue to look through the licensee's application for renewal, if I discover deficiencies can I bring them to your attention?

MR. AULUCK: Yes. Please do so.

MR. GRIMES: If I could add to that -- the staff is currently reviewing the application and is developing a set of formal questions that we will send to the applicant. Those will be distributed to the public as well -- the questions as well as the Florida Power & Light responses to those questions. So we will be probing on the details that are contained in the application. If you identify questions or information in the application that we question, we'd certainly like to know about that and see whether it's covered during our review.

MR. ONCAVAGE: How long do you expect the probing process to continue?

MR. AULUCK: I think that we are expected to send over all of the request forms initially submitted on the application by the first week of February. So I think it's a staggered time schedule and whatever we send them -- ask them -- they will be put in the public document.

MR. CAMERON: All right. Any other questions about the overall license renewal process before we go into the specifics of the environmental aspects of the process? Okay, good. Thank you very much, Raj.

Now we're going to go to Jim Wilson, who is going to talk about the NEPA process for us. Jim --

MR. WILSON: Thank you, Chip. My name is Jim Wilson. I'm the Environmental Project Manager for the Turkey Point License Renewal Project. I work in the Generic Issues, Environmental, Financial, and Rulemaking Branch within the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation with the NRC.

I intend to spend the next few minutes talking about the process required by the National Environmental Policy Act -- the so called, NEPA process, and then describe how that process is incorporated into the regulations at the NRC. Then more specifically, how those regulations are being applied to the Turkey Point License Renewal

Application Review.

NEPA was enacted in 1969. It requires all Federal agencies to use a systematic approach to consider environmental impacts during certain decision-making proceedings. There is a disclosure process to it that involves the public. It invokes a process whereby information is gathered to enable Federal agencies to make informed decisions, and as part of that process to document the information and invite public participation to evaluate it.

The NEPA process results in a number of different kinds of documents; chief among them are Environmental Impact Statements -- also called EISs. These describe the results of a rigorous and detailed review that we do to evaluate the environmental impacts of a proposed action that may significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

The NRC has determined that license renewal is a major Federal action. Therefore, we are going to go through the NEPA process for Turkey Point and we will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement that describes the environmental impacts of operation.

This slide describes the objective of our environmental review. The staff is trying to determine whether adverse environmental impacts of license renewal for Turkey Point are not so great that reserving the option of

license renewal for energy planning decision-makers would be unreasonable. That's what the regulations require. To paraphrase, we're trying to determine whether or not renewing the Turkey Point Nuclear Station Units 3 and 4 licenses for an additional 20 years of operation would be acceptable from an environmental standpoint.

Now I'd like to give you an overview and describe how the staff incorporated the NEPA process into the regulatory framework of the NRC, and how we perform our environmental review.

The NRC's implementing regulations for carrying out the NEPA process are located in Part 51 of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations -- what we call, 10 CFR, Part 51. This regulation outlines the contents of Environmental Impact Statements and the process that the NRC uses in order to meet the requirements of NEPA. Early on in establishing the license renewal process -- back in late 1980s and the 1990s -- it was recognized that the original Environmental Impact Statements that were written for the plants when they received their operating licenses 20 or more years ago, would be out of date and needed to be updated to the address the 20 years of operation under license renewals. So the NRC undertook a rule-making effort to modify Part 51 and to amend it to address environmental impacts of license renewal.

As part of the rulemaking effort from Part 51, the staff developed a Generic Environmental Impact Statement called the G-E-I-S, or GEIS, which took a systematic look at the thousands of hours of operating experience at all the nuclear plants in the U.S. to help us identify potential environmental impacts. In addition, the staff developed and used an Environmental Standard Review Plan for license renewal as guidance on how the staff should perform its review. There are copies of the regulations -- 10 CFR, Part 51 -- the Generic Environmental Impact Statement and the Environmental Standard Review Plan outside in the lobby for your examination. These documents can be viewed on the Internet or our web site, and can be obtained from the Government Printing Office. In addition, these documents are located at the Homestead Library across the street.

The next slide shows a little more detail of the environmental review process as indicated in an earlier slide. It just addresses the environmental portion of the review. It also shows the points in the process where the public participation can occur.

As far as the NEPA process goes, there are certain steps that we at the NRC are required to follow. These are the same steps that are consistent with all EISs prepared by Federal agencies for any proposed major Federal action.

The first step is a Notice of Intent. For Turkey

Point we issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement in October, in the Federal Register. To prepare for the review the staff has assembled a team of NRC individuals with backgrounds in the specific technical and scientific disciplines required to perform these environmental reviews.

In addition, to supplement the technical expertise of the staff, we engaged the assistance of four of our national laboratories to ensure that they have a well-rounded knowledge base to perform this review. We put together a team of about 20 people to conduct this review, most of whom are here today to address questions that you may have and to hear what you have to say.

The next step is the scoping process. During the scoping period we'll be identifying issues to be addressed in the Environmental Impact Statement. The scoping period for Turkey Point began on October 24th with the issuance of a Notice of Intent, and will end on December 22nd. Today we are holding the second of two public meetings to describe what we are doing and hope to get input from you on the Environmental Impact Statement.

During the scoping period we seek the information to define the scope of the EIS, to determine what needs to be studied in detail, and what is not appropriate to address. Not only are we soliciting input from you, but

we will be obtaining information from Florida Power & Light and from Federal, State, and local agencies.

Once we feel we have enough information to establish the scope of the review, the staff looks at a number of different issues including the environmental impacts of the proposed license renewal, alternatives to the proposed action and the impacts that could result from those alternatives, and possible mitigation measures. That is, those things that can be done that would decrease the environmental impact from license renewal.

After we finish our environmental review we'll issue a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for public comment. This will be a plant-specific supplement to the Generic Environmental Impact Statement that we issued in 1996. We will rely on the findings from the GEIS -- the Generic Environmental Impact Statement -- for part of our conclusions. We refer to it as a draft, not because it is incomplete, but rather because we are at an intermediate stage in the decision-making process. So once we've issued the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, we'll plan on having another public meeting during a comment period about eight to nine months from now. This will allow you to take a look at the results of our review and our documentation of it and to provide any comments that you may have.

After we gather the comments and evaluate them, we may decide to change portions of the Turkey Point-Specific Supplement to the Generic Environmental Impact Statement based on those comments. The NRC will then issue a Final Turkey Point-Specific Supplement to the GEIS.

Now that I've given you a general idea of the overall process, let's talk about what we're going to be doing in the near term. Over the next few months the environmental review team will be looking at Florida Power & Light's application. We'll be visiting the site and reviewing the Florida Power & Light Company's evaluation process and documentation. We'll also be reviewing any comments that we receive during the scoping period ending December 22nd. All comments received during the scoping period will be considered.

In addition, we'll be obtaining needed information on Turkey Point from Federal, State, and local officials as well as local agencies.

Now I'd like to tell you a little bit more about what it is we look at. The Generic Environmental Impact Statement is published as NUREG-1437 and was issued in 1996. It formed the basis for the rule revisions in Part 51. Prior to that, the NRC had worked with the states, the Council on Environmental Quality, the Environmental Protection Agency, and a number of other groups and held

enough series of public workshops to develop the Final GEIS.

During that time the NRC did its best to identify what environmental issues needed to be reviewed for license renewal. The staff identified and categorized the environmental impacts that were specific to license renewal and they identified a total of 92 potential environmental impacts, and they evaluated them in the Generic Environmental Impact Statement.

When the staff had evaluated the 92 issues they found that some of these were generic. That is, they were common to all plants regardless of their design or where they were located. The NRC wanted to categorize them differently than those that needed to be evaluated on a plant-specific basis. So we chose to designate these generic impacts as being in Category 1. An example of a Category 1 issue is off-site radiological consequences. In developing the Generic Environmental Impact Statement, the staff looked to see if off-site doses during the renewal period would be likely to exceed the current levels associated with the normal operation at the plants today.

They performed a historical review and determined that doses to the public had been maintained well below those allowed by the regulations, and the staff could see no reason for those doses to increase due to the extended operating period provided monitoring and control programs

continue to be implemented acceptably. Because radiological impacts apply to all plants in a similar manner and the significance level was deemed small provided regulatory compliance is maintained, the staff considered that this item could be addressed on a generic basis as a Category 1 issue. That does not mean we're not going to be looking at this issue any further. I means we're going to go back and look only for significant new information that would cause us to change the conclusions we made on this issue four years ago when we issued the GEIS.

There were 69 Category 1 issues among the 92 issues that were identified and that were assessed in the Final GEIS. As part of our review, we require applicants to inform the NRC in its application whether it is aware of any new significant information regarding these Category 1 issues.

During the scoping phase of this review we will also look at comments from the members of the public and the Federal, State, and local authorities to determine whether or not they have any new, significant information on these issues. If some new, significant information on a particular issue is revealed by this process, that information will be included in our review to determine the environmental impact. If not, we will adopt the generic conclusion from the GEIS for that issue. All of the

remaining 23 issues identified in the GEIS will be addressed on a plant-specific basis.

Finally, the review process is designed to help the NRC determine whether or not there are any new, significant issues that we did not identify four years ago, and are not covered in the GEIS. New issues specific to Turkey Point may be revealed as a result of the scoping process we are undergoing right now. If a significant new issue -- a 93rd issue -- is identified that was not considered in the GEIS, it would be reviewed on a plant-specific basis as though it were a Category 2 issue.

These next two slides give you an idea of the different disciplines and the types of things we look at. The ecology issues, threatened and endangered species, socio-economics, and decommissioning alternatives... The regulations identify some issues that the staff does not look at during its environmental review for license renewal, including the need for power, cost of power, and spent-fuel disposal.

In addition, my environmental review team will not be looking at the safety aspects of license renewal. That will be covered by Mr. Grimes' people under the review process that he directs.

After the scoping period ends on December 22, the staff will assess all of the comments to determine whether

or not they are applicable to the environmental aspects of license renewal. Issues that do not have a bearing on the decision to renew the license will be referred to the appropriate NRC Program Manager. An example of this would be the Operating Plant Project Manager, Allegation Coordinator, or Regional Inspection Staff. Such an issue may also be referred to other agencies that may be interested in them. Safety issues related to license renewal, again, will be referred to Mr. Grimes' staff.

This slide gives you the current schedule for the environmental review for Turkey Point. We expect to be finished with the entire review by the end of January 2002. If there are no hearings and the review goes smoothly, we hope to improve on this schedule.

To ensure that you are informed of any schedule changes I recommend that you provide your name and address to us and we'll include you on our distribution list. That way we can send you notifications of upcoming public meetings on the environmental review and we will send you copies of the Draft and Final Environmental Impact Statements for Turkey Point.

This last slide provides you with my phone number in case you have additional questions after you leave here today. I am the designated point of contact within the NRC for the environmental portion of the license renewal review.

All the documents that we have spoken about today can be viewed on the NRC's home page on the web. In addition, the Homestead Library across the street has agreed to make a copy of the application available, as well as the Code of Federal Regulations, the GEIS, and the Standard Review Plan. Comments may be submitted by mail, in person, or by E-mail, and this slide gives details on how to submit comments or get information.

In closing, I'd like to thank you for attention. This ends my formal presentation. Before we continue, I want to thank you for attending today's meeting. Public participation is an important part of the NEPA process and license renewal. It is important that you participate because it makes for a better process. After all, it's likely that you living in the area know the plant better than we do. I'd like to offer you the opportunity to ask any questions about the material I've just presented.

MR. CAMERON: Thanks, Jim. Are there questions about the Environmental Impact Statement process? I think Jim went through a lot of details for you on this and before we officially go out to you for comments, are there any questions that we can clear up at this point? Yes, sir. Just state your name for the transcript, please.

REV. TED GREEN: My name is Reverend Ted Green. I have a question on Slide 22. It talks about an alternative

to the renewal. Could you clarify that?

MR. CAMERON: Let's go to Slide 22. The last bullet on that page talks about alternatives.

REV. GREEN: The last one, Alternative to license renewal. Could you clarify what? --

MR. WILSON: Generally we look at a suite of alternatives including fossil fuel alternatives, we look at alternate technologies, and we also have recently have begun to do a combination of alternatives; maybe a gas-fired unit combined with some conservation measures. We look at things that would produce electricity to replace the Turkey Point Plant if we were not to do the license renewal. We also look at the environmental impacts of each of those alternatives, assess them, and compare them to the license renewal that has been proposed.

MR. CAMERON: Does that answer your question?

REV. GREEN: Yes.

MR. CAMERON: All right; good. Any other questions? Okay, yes.

MS. VASE: My name is Debra Vase. I would like to know if the plant license is not renewed, how will the equipment and the product be broken down and what would happen to it? Where would it go? Where would it be stored?

MR. CAMERON: Okay. Who wants to handle that? Chris?

MR. GRIMES: If the license renewal is not granted the plant would continue to operate under its existing license until the license expiration in 2012 and 2013. By that time other regulatory requirements would demand that the licensee file a Decommissioning Plan that explains the answers to all of those questions. There are a variety of different techniques for decommissioning facilities. So the alternative to license renewal would be a Decommissioning Plan prepared well in advance of the expiration of the licenses.

MS. CARPENTER: And one point to add to that is that the licensees also put aside funds -- money -- to decommission the plants; a decommissioning trust fund and this is set aside so that they can decommission the plant.

MR. CAMERON: Is that indeed one of the alternatives that are looked at?

MS. CARPENTER: No. I'm sorry; that's right. I thought you were talking about the financial side.

MR. CAMERON: Does that answer your question? Okay. Let's go to some comments from all of you and I think it's appropriate to start with the staff from Florida Power & Light to tell us about the motivation and objectives that they are pursuing in license renewal. I'm going to ask Bob Hovey, who is the vice-president for the Turkey Point Plant to start us off. Then we're going to go to Liz Thompson,

who is the Project Manager at Florida Power & Light for license renewal. Bob --

MR. HOVEY: Good evening. Thank you, Mr. Cameron. My name is Bob Hovey and I'm the vice-president at Florida Power & Light's Turkey Point Nuclear Plant. I'd also like to thank Jim Wilson, the staff from the YMCA, and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for arranging and holding this meeting today.

Florida Power & Light welcomes the insight and input from the community on the environmental aspects of the re-licensing of the Turkey Point Plant. This is a very important meeting to identify the environmental aspects of the license renewal initiative and their impact on the Homestead and Florida City community.

I would like to thank everyone for attending today and participating in this important process. I appreciate this opportunity to speak to you. Assisting me today is Liz Thompson, our License Renewal Project Manager. We will be using this time to provide an opportunity for an overview of the Environmental Report associated with the license renewal of the Turkey Point Plant.

I'm here to tell you that Florida Power & Light is very excited about license renewal. Turkey Point is one of the top performing plants in the country. Turkey Point supplies a source of safe, clean, reliable, and inexpensive

power to the people of South Florida. The plant and its employees are also an integral part of the South Florida community.

Turkey Point, you may recall, returned to service about 38 days after Hurricane Andrew passed directly overhead, and provided power throughout the remainder of the recovery period. Turkey Point also provides a superior environmental benefit by producing large amounts of power without greenhouse gas emissions.

First, let me tell you a little bit about myself. I graduated from Thomas Edison State College with a degree in nuclear engineering technology and I earned an MBA from Rutgers University. I joined Florida Power & Light as the vice-president of Turkey Point back in 1995 and I have over 25 years of experience in the nuclear business between the Navy and other various utilities. Not only do I work here in south Miami-Dade County in this community, but I live here too. My wife and I and our six children consider this our home. Since this is my family's home I care about the community. We live in this community like the rest of you.

To help the community I participate in the community in many ways, such as serving as a fund-raising chairman for the local Boy Scouts in south Miami-Dade. I'm an advisor at Florida International University for their Engineering Program. I contribute at the leadership pillar

level to local area agencies every year and that's through the United Way. I am also a board member of the South Miami-Dade Vision Council for Economic Development in this area.

The prosperity and well-being of this community are important to me. I see the renewal of Turkey Point's operating licenses as an essential part of the community's well-being.

Turkey Point is a four-unit site located on the shore of Biscayne Bay approximately 10 miles east of Florida City and about 24 miles south of Miami. Units 1 and 2 are gas and oil-fired units and Units 3 and 4 are nuclear units. This license renewal process is applicable to the nuclear units only.

At full power each of the nuclear units produces 693 megawatts of electricity and provides enough electricity to serve the southern part of Miami-Dade County from approximately the Miami International Airport and all regions south. This is over 250,000 homes that we supply the electricity to.

Over the years Turkey Point has demonstrated high levels of safety and reliability. Turkey Point is the only plant in the United States to receive three, consecutive superior ratings for safety performance from the agency that regulates it -- the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. That

spans the years from 1994 through 1999 when that program ended. Turkey Point is consistently rated one of the best plants for safety and reliability in the country and by the World Association of Nuclear Operators, which is an independent organization.

Our regulators and peers have recognized Turkey Point as a top performing plant. Turkey Point also provides an economic source of electricity for our neighbors in South Florida. Even if you add the cost of construction, the future cost of operation, maintenance, license renewal fees, going through the process, Turkey Point still remains a very cost-effective supplier of electricity.

The Atomic Energy Commission, which was the predecessor of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, issued a 40-year license to operate the Unit 3 in 1972 and a 40-year license for Unit 4 in 1973. These licenses were issued after completion of an extensive evaluation of the technical and environmental aspects associated with the Turkey Point Plant.

For the past 28 years our employees have worked hard to sustain the option for continued operation of both Turkey Point units well beyond their 40-year license life, through their dedication to the highest maintenance standards and a significant commitment to safety. Their extraordinary commitment has resulted in Turkey Point being

recognized as one of the most safe and reliable, efficient nuclear plants in the industry.

Our company, Florida Power & Light, and our employees have worked hard to be good neighbors in all the communities we serve. Our employees are your family members, friends, neighbors, and over the life of the plant, Turkey Point employees have been and continue to be socially responsible, actively supporting many of our local community activities.

For me, the most personally rewarding component of our process to renew the operating license for Turkey Point has been to share this information with our neighbors in the surrounding communities. Our team has spoken to over 700 individuals at over 70 meetings and gatherings throughout the community. The feedback that we've received showed a strong support for the re-licensing of Turkey Point to ensure its continued safe operation and to maintain it as a member of this community.

I'd like to thank all of our neighbors for the warm reception that you've shown us inviting us to share this information with you. It gave us the opportunity to hear what was important to you and it will help us in continuing our long relationship with the people of south Miami-Dade. The strong support that we have received helped underscore for our employees that we are an important part

of this community and wish to continue to be so. I am a strong advocate of our license renewal application. I've worked in the power industry for over 25 years, and have had the opportunity to look at different forms of power generation and delivery. I believe that the renewal of the Turkey Point licenses is the best long-term solution for the energy needs in this community and throughout the State and the country.

Preparation for a license renewal application was a major undertaking. Thousands of work hours were used to generate this information and to verify that Turkey Point would in fact be a safe and reliable plant in the future. I am proud of our application and the team that developed it.

Now I'd like to turn the presentation over to our License Renewal Project Manager, Liz Thompson, for a description of some of the environmental aspects of our application.

MS. THOMPSON: Thanks, Bob. Good evening everyone. I'd like to say what a great honor it is to be here today representing the dedicated employees of Turkey Point as we pursue license renewal for the Turkey Point units.

The employees and I want to remain a part of the south Miami-Dade community and obtaining renewed licenses is a necessary step to ensure we are able to continue as active

and beneficial neighbors in the community.

As Bob said, my name is Liz Thompson, and I'm the Project Manager for Turkey Point's license renewal. I am a mechanical engineer from Virginia Tech and I've worked in the nuclear industry for over 16 years.

I joined FPL in 1987 and have supported Turkey Point as a Design Engineer, Maintenance Supervisor, Project Manager, and Engineering Manager in support of the plant over the last 13 years.

Like many of you, I am a Hurricane Andrew survivor and worked as a member of Turkey Point's Emergency Response Team to ensure the plant was maintained in a safe condition during that time. I have lived in the south Miami-Dade area for 13 years. Like over 60 other employees at Turkey Point, I am a leadership contributor to local area agencies through the United Way, meaning that I contribute $1,000 a year to United Way charities. I am a regular blood donor. I am active in other community events, such as the Bay Cleanup and breast cancer charities.

My background and involvement in the community is typical of the employees at Turkey Point. We are a highly-trained, professional group of employees that are an integral part of this local community. I am proud to be a Turkey Point employee. I am proud of the commitment to safely operating the plant every day that our employees and

I embrace. I am proud of their hard work and of the standards of excellence and continuous improvement our employees demonstrate each and every day, and I'm proud of the work we do to preserve and protect the environment.

I'd like to share some information with you about the beneficial coexistence of Turkey Point and the environment. The Turkey Point Power Plant is located on 22,000 acres east of Homestead and Florida City. The plant site was originally larger, but in the 1970's FPL gave some of the land to the National Parks Service to help establish Biscayne National Park. Over 13,000 acres of the property is undeveloped and is part of the Everglades Mitigation Bank. FPL is restoring this land to its natural state and maintaining the land for the protection and preservation of the environment.

This property is strategically located between Biscayne National Park and Everglades National Park. The remaining portion of the property is used for the safe and reliable generation of electricity. The power equipment is located in the northeast area of the property and uses less than a thousand acres of the land.

Approximately 6,800 acres of the property comprise the closed, cooling water canal system, which consists of 168 miles of canals that cool the power plants; an essential part of generating electricity. The canal system also

serves as a unique area for the mating, nesting, and nursery of the endangered American Crocodile. It is estimated that 70% of the increase in the population of the American Crocodile in South Florida is due to the preservation efforts of FPL in the cooling canal system.

The preservation of the site and the species present there will continue during the renewed operating license term. The renewal of the Turkey Point licenses is important to meeting the energy needs of South Florida. Florida is growing approximately 2% per year, and electricity consumed per customer is also increasing. Because of this, the demand for electricity is increasing and FPL must provide power plants to meet that demand. It is also important that the power plants be close to where the electricity is needed to ensure the quality of the power and stability of the system. Without Turkey Point, another power plant would be needed in the South Florida area.

The renewal of the Turkey Point licenses would provide for clean energy without using new land for a new power plant to meet the growing needs for energy in South Florida. In fact, for each of operation, nuclear plants prevent substantial amounts of carbon emissions and other pollutants from going into the air we breathe. The positive impact on air quality will continue during the period of extended operation.

Part of our process to renew our license included evaluating the alternatives. We studied all the alternatives for generating this electricity, and renewing the operating license at Turkey Point continues to make sense. Without Turkey Point a new plant would likely have to be built and a means of transporting the fuel to the plant would have to be constructed. This could mean constructing a new gas pipeline to the site. Windmills would require over 200,000 acres, or a solar park would require about 50,000 acres, and both would be less reliable than Turkey Point due to unstable winds and regular cloud cover, making them impractical and more expensive. Turkey Point's license renewal is the least impact alternative for providing electricity to the South Florida community.

Keeping Turkey Point a part of this community is also important to the social and economic well-being of our neighbors, with an estimated economic impact of over $60 million annually to the local economy. By the participation of the Turkey Point employees in the community through the United Way, PTAs, local government, Boys and Girl Scouts and so on, Turkey Point and so on, Turkey Point employees are a vital part of this community's social and economic well-being.

The Turkey Point employees want to remain a part of this community and as your neighbors, we share your

concern for you and your family's health and well-being, the well-being of the community, and of the environment. We are committed to safely and reliably operating the Turkey Point Power Plant long into the future to meet the energy needs of South Florida. Thank you.

MR. CAMERON: Thank you, Liz. Now we are going to go to three speakers and I'm going to give you a preview of who will be coming up to talk so that you can get prepared and know where we are. We are going to go to Dr. Phillips, who is President of Miami-Dade Community College, and then Curtis Ivey, City Manager for Homestead, and Shaun Fletcher, Councilman from the City of Homestead. Dr. Phillips --

DR. PHILLIPS: Thank you very much. I appreciate this opportunity to speak on behalf of the renewal of the license for the Turkey Point Plant.

First of all, I want to give you some personal observations and experience in my profession in working in Atomic Energy. In 1963 I was a National Science Foundation Fellow at Wayne State University, and had an opportunity to study the methodology and application of radioisotopes as tracers to lesions in animals. In that experience I had an opportunity to visit, at that time, the National Argonne Laboratory in Illinois. In that plant setting I saw the evolution really, of the development of the good use of atomic energy. I had studied atomic energy in chemistry and

also physics classes, but now I saw a really practical application of the use of atomic energy, and how it could be used for the future.

I had also been aware of the fact that as you look at our fossil fuel capacity in this country, it's dwindling. When you look at coal, when you look at gas, you see a dwindling of those resources. You also see a high dependence of our country on oil from nations that are not so friendly to us during times of economic downturn. So I see the use of atomic energy at Turkey Point -- I've had a chance to visit that plant when Dr. Shirley Jackson was I believe, one of the directors or the Director of the Regulatory Commission, came out to your plant and had a visit. I walked through the plant and I saw all of the safety precautions that you use to generate electricity.

One of the things I do want to say as a consumer, and I'm speaking tonight really as a citizen and a consumer of the electricity here, every month when I look at my electric bill I am very pleased to see that my electric bill is very affordable. I see that it's affordable because it's very efficient. When I was a boy I lived in Michigan and I had to get up every morning and stoke the old furnace with coal, and I don't want to go back into that era. So I strongly support the use of nuclear energy in terms of providing good, safe, clean energy to our increasing and

expanding society.

I also want to ditto all of the things that our two previous speakers have said, in terms of the importance of this particular institution to our community. I do want to say that Miami-Dade Community College has a very good working relationship with you. We do provide training and one of the things that I applaud you on is really hiring and training your employees to understand the application and to be good, safe people in terms of the production of this energy to our community.

So I want to ditto everything that has been said, and I do want to strongly support the renewal of the license for this fine facility in our community. Thank you so much.

MR. CAMERON: Okay. Thank you, Dr. Phillips. Mr. Ivey --

MR. IVEY: Good evening. Thank you again for the opportunity to speak. My name is Curt Ivey. First of all, I'm a resident of Homestead. I'm also the City Manager for the City of Homestead, and I'm here to speak tonight in support of the re-licensing of the Turkey Point Nuclear Plant.

Many of the things that I had prepared to say have been said and I'll skip many of those to give you from a relief from what probably will be a pretty long night. I wanted to talk mainly about the importance of FP&L Turkey

Point Power Plant to our community. Many of these things have been said, but I think in general that the country is facing a shortage of electric generation power. California is the latest in the news of being able to meet their requirements for power.

We know that the need for power sustains growth and this is again, a very important concept for us here in the City of Homestead, as well as throughout the country. We believe that -- we've lived here with Turkey Point for approximately 25 years -- it's been an affordable source of energy for us and we don't know what the alternative is. We know that there will have to be an alternative if you don't re-license the Turkey Point Plant. There has to be some alternative for power. You've heard the area for which Turkey Point is responsible for providing power. It's a tremendously large area. Why build another plant when we have an existing facility filling our needs currently?

Along with the importance to the community, they have been a good neighbor and I can speak to that from personal experience as a public servant. I've worked for the City of Homestead for over 13 years now. I was their Chief of Police prior to becoming their City Manager. I know and have come to really appreciate the economics of organizations within our community.

I was here during Andrew as well, as the Chief of

Police, but I do know the ancillary impact of the closure of the air base in regard to middle class, upper-middle class people with disposable income living in our community leaving overnight. I know what it has meant to this community. I know the struggle we are having in economic development and with disposable income within our community. It impacts us trying to attract national chains to provide services for our people and our community in the City of Homestead. It makes it difficult because we don't have the disposable income. We may look at the demographics, but other things that we lost besides the obvious -- the money -- we've heard about the financial impact that as an employer, the largest employer in Dade County is the Turkey Point Plant with approximately 800 employees.

They have hundreds of employees coming and working at the plant over and over, which all brings an economic boost to the area and supports people living in the area. It supports jobs in the area. They have a tax base of approximately $8 million in their property taxes. This is significant to a governmental unit. Even though they are not located in the City of Homestead I wish they were. However, it does impact us that they are located in unincorporated Dade County, but we would experience some of the same losses as we had with the people who left because of the air base; some of the ancillary things.

Their children were in our honors programs in school, and the quality of our honors programs in our public schools degraded when we lost the members of the Homestead Air Force Base and their children. We lost their participation in the schools at that time in the PTA. We also lost teachers. We lost nurses. We lost other employees in various jobs within the community, which all went to degrade the quality of life in our community and how our community was able to operate.

We also have heard how the employees from Turkey Point support community programs and they do, and you've heard those statistics. I won't go over them, but I would add the Chamber of Commerce. I would add that both Florida City and the City of Homestead have councilmen who are members of our council who are employees at Turkey Point. They get involved in the Community Vision Council. Mr. Hovey mentioned his attendance there and I served on our Vision Council with Mr. Hovey. It's quite clear that the people that are employed within that facility out there, give back to their community and we need that kind of support.

I will say also as a government manager that Turkey Point has been very responsive to us and any questions and issues that we have to deal with. Remember, the City of Homestead also has a power plant just a little

bit smaller than Turkey Point, however, just as important to us and the city also. So we have occasion back and forth, to deal on a number of issues with Florida Power & Light and the Turkey Point facility. They have always been very responsive.

We have participated with them when we talk about their safety record -- you have heard and will know when it's on the record -- how safe Turkey Point has been and how they are rated currently. I know that we've participated in exercises with them. So I know that training goes on. We've had our local Police Department participating, as well as Metro Dade County -- Miami-Dade County, I guess I should say. So I know these training exercises go on. I get the feedback from the people who have been in them. The procedures are there and the training is ongoing. We work hand-in-hand with that organization there. So I can attest to my belief, and I believe with evidence that I've personally experienced, that the training does -- I'm not there everyday, but the training does occur and it is effective and they do a good job.

Again, I believe them to be environmentally conscious. You've heard it better than I can explain some of the things that they've done, but I know we deal with them on mitigation areas. They have a Bank of Mitigation Land that sometimes when we're doing something and we need

to mitigate to be able to develop, that we have that availability to us and we appreciate that.

So I've now concluded my comments. Thank you for the opportunity, and again, I throw my support to the re-licensing. Thank you.

MR. CAMERON: Thank you, Mr. Ivey. Next let's go to Shaun Fletcher. Oh, okay. I'm sorry.

For the next three presenters, we're going to go first to Mark Oncavage, then to Angie Howard, and then to Reverend Ted Greer. Mark --

MR. ONCAVAGE: Good evening. My name is Mark Oncavage. I would like to speak about scoping.

A number of concerns: One of them is the cooling canals at Turkey Point. They are unlined. They are limestone. They are porous. They are permeable. They pass water readily. I came across one quote that says, Seepage through system, -- speaking about the cooling canals -- Athrough the ground to Biscayne Bay and Card Sound, 60 to 150 cubic feet per second.

What effect will the discharge of chemical wastes being put into the cooling canals have on our environment over the 10-year renewal period? The NPDES permit allows them to dump their chemical wastes with the knowledge that the water is passing out to Card Sound and Biscayne Bay. This is an environmental issue needing to be studied.

What radioactive wastes are being put into the cooling canals? What radioactive wastes are migrating into Biscayne Bay and Card Sound? What radioactivity is appearing in the inshore marine life of Biscayne National Park? Is there a propensity to increase radioactive liquid discharges due to the soon demise of Barnwell, and the demise of the Southeast Regional Compact? Is there an unacceptable health risk to people who consume the fish, the crabs, the clams, the oysters, and the other marine products that come from the Turkey Point area? What are the precise levels of radioactivity in the close-by marine life to Turkey Point?

Looking at spent-fuel storage we have numbers say that in a few years the spent-fuel capacity of Turkey Point will be reached. Are we going to go to dry cask storage at that point? Can the casks withstand hours of pounding in a Category 5 hurricane without being breached? What would be the consequences if they can't? What is the protection from spent fuel and from terrorism?

We have a country very close to us -- Cuba. We have concerns that when Castro steps down he may be replaced by a less stable regime, and there has been a long rumor in the community that Turkey Point would be a target of Cuban foul play.

Let's look into greenhouse gases. The fission of

nuclear fuel does not produce any CO2 -- carbon dioxide. The mining, milling, refining, and fabricating of these fuels are CO2 intensive.

I've looked at a German Study. I have no particular credence in it, but it's a good springboard for us to look at Turkey Point and see what it brings to our place.

This German study said that in the German reactors there are 34 grams of CO2 to be released for each kilowatt hour. If we multiply that out we get some kind of a huge number. We get something like 51 tons of CO2 per hour from operating Turkey Point. Multiply it out to a year; that's 317,000 tons of CO2 that went into the making of the fuel.

Now like I said, I don't have credence in these numbers. I'm sure they are quite different for American fuel fabrication, but it's something that should be looked at in the Environmental Impact Statement.

There is a very good possibility that there will be a commercial airport 4.9 miles from Turkey Point at the old Homestead Air Force Base.

I have spoken and written to the NRC about this situation. The results that I have gotten have been unsatisfying. We wonder why the NRC has refused to use their Standard Review Plan for these airport operations. We wonder why the smokestacks show up in some formula for

critical structures and then not in others. There is a safety evaluation that is highly questionable. If there is to be a lot of air traffic, the Environmental Impact Statement needs to look at this anew.

There is also less of a chance, but nonetheless, a chance that there is going to be a space port at Homestead. This was one of the possibilities brought out by the Environmental Impact Statement for the disposal of Homestead Air Force Base. There we have a different problem. There we have fuel being stored at Homestead close to Turkey Point. The fuel has to be stored at least 1,800 feet away from the nearest inhabited building, which puts us at the part of the property closest to Turkey Point, and the fuel that they are talking about is stored in aboveground tanks. We're speaking of a million pounds of liquid hydrogen and a million pounds of liquid oxygen. These could present severe problems if they become ignited.

When it comes to accidents the part that becomes in jeopardy the easiest, is the Biscayne aquifer. This is where all of us get our drinking water. It's a surface, rock formation holding the water slowly bringing it down from the Everglades and from Lake Okeechobee. If there were to be a radiological accident of severe consequences, this would impact the water supply of Miami-Dade County in the event. This needs to be looked at.

The airborne releases; concerns that they are a health and safety risk. I would like the NRC to start testing soil samples, vegetation samples, and fruit samples for residual amounts of radioactivity that go into the consuming of food. Also the other way, as the radioactive emissions go to the bay and the ocean, we need samples there. We also need to develop a testing protocol that we all can agree on; something where we can go in depth to find out how much environmental degradation has happened already, before we get to the end of the original license in 12 years, and then project it on for the 20 years for the license renewal.

So I am calling upon you to weight the Generic Environmental Impact Statement. I am speaking for the Sierra Club, and for Friends of the Everglades, asking you to develop a full Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for Turkey Point License Renewal. Thank You.

MR. CAMERON: Okay. Thank you, Mark. Next we go to Angie Howard.

MS. HOWARD: Thank you, Chip. Good evening. It's my pleasure to be here and be in the community this evening. I'm Angie Howard. I'm the Executive vice-president with the Nuclear Energy Institute.

The Nuclear Energy Institute is based in Washington, and it's a policy organization that represents

more than 300 United States and international companies that are involved in the commercial use of nuclear energy and nuclear technology.

Nuclear energy today provides about 20% of our electricity in this country. It is produced at 103 nuclear plants around the country situated in communities very similar to here in Homestead; neighbors that people are proud to call home.

The U.S. Nuclear Energy focuses itself on safety. That focus has laid the groundwork for continued safe, reliable, and cost-effective operation of these nuclear plants. A concern for people's safety is paramount in all that we do. As an industry we are proud of the safety record that we have achieved in this country and truly, on a worldwide basis.

Nuclear energy offers a wide array of benefits to our communities, to our economy, and to the environment. So I would like to talk a little bit about it. You've heard today, some of the very specific things here at Turkey Point, and I'd like to sort of expand that a little bit to a nationwide perspective.

In this country, our economy has been in the tremendous growth and certainly, we've seen it here in Florida for the past two years. With that growth has come an increased demand for electricity. Did you know that the

Internet is demanding about 14% of our electricity today? So it's an amazing kind of growth that modern conveniences -- they are consuming large quantities of electricity, as does the manufacturing of those goods. The digital economy is part of all of our lives today and nuclear energy, because it supplies this country's growing urban and suburban populations, has played an important role in fueling that economic success. Beyond that, nuclear energy and nuclear electricity is produced without emitting greenhouse gases or other pollutants.

Mr. Oncavage, I don't know of the German report that you quoted, but I would be delighted to have them make reference to it and look at that so that we can further evaluate that.

Without nuclear energy many areas of this country would not be in compliance with our Clear Air Act. Not only would this threaten air quality and quality of life in the communities, but it would also would impact our economic growth; jeopardizing it.

Also, nuclear energy helps ensure our own energy security in this country. The electricity lessens our dependence on foreign oil and it's not subject to the volatile price fluctuations. We talked about that earlier. You've seen it in particular this week in California.

Nuclear energy also makes a direct and valuable

contribution to the national economy. Nuclear energy companies play an important role in the economic life of towns and communities around the nation. They are a significant source of employment and economic activity supporting families, regional businesses, and local governments as they provide residents with essential education and other social services. From direct employment and taxes, flow a wide range of other economic benefits that cause a ripple effect through these communities and which contribute to the lives of many other people.

So certainly from our perspective, nuclear energy generation is vital to the economy and to society, and is going to play an increasingly valuable role in the future as the demand for electricity continues to grow for the country's population.

Now we've heard today the progress that's being made in license renewal around the country and we do expect essentially all the nuclear units in operation today to proceed with license renewal in the future.

The industry, along with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has spent a lot of years preparing for license renewal. Some years ago the Agency -- the NRC -- began preparing for the expected license renewals by carefully and very meticulously identifying the types and severities of environmental impacts that could occur as a result of

license renewal. There was much discussion. There was a lot of input from State governments, members of the public, proponents, and critics of nuclear energy, and the industry itself. They honestly concluded that there were issues that were common to all plants. We've heard that discussed by the Commission so far. It was agreed that these issues would be best addressed generically.

By addressing those issues generically -- the common issues in the generic manner -- NRC has allowed for a greater and deeper focus on those issues that are deemed unique to the individual plant that is seeking renewal. It's an open process, and throughout the license renewal evaluation the NRC will demonstrate to you a clear commitment to keeping you informed. You, the citizens of this community and all stakeholders, apprized of the progress. They keep their updates posted on the Internet and I think you will find that they are going to be extremely willing to listen to your input. There are many clear benefits to extending Turkey Point's license, but let me summarize just three key areas that we see.

First of all, license renewal will allow this region of Florida to continue to have electricity that does not produce greenhouse gases or other pollutants, such as sulfur dioxide, nitric oxide, mercury and particulants.

Secondly, license renewal will preserve good jobs

for the people of this community, and continue to contribute substantial tax revenues to the region.

Thirdly, renewal of a nuclear plant's license is far more economical than building a new electrical facility of any kind. Turkey Point Nuclear Plant has been here in South Florida, and has been quietly doing its job day in and day out, year after year. To undertake excessive cost of new construction when you already have a safe, cost-effective, reliable contributor to your electric needs right here in your own backyard, seems unnecessary.

The proposed renewal of Turkey Point's operating license is important to this community, it's important to the nation, and it's important to your environment. So I am pleased to be here and good luck on your license renewal.

MR. CAMERON: Okay. Thank you, Angie. Reverend Greer, you can come up here or speak there; wherever you are comfortable.

REVEREND GREER: I speak at podiums on Sundays, so I can stand here. Good evening everyone. I'm here representing the GOULDS (ph) Community. I am Vice-Chair of the GOULDS Coalition of Ministers. I am the Chairperson of the GOULDS Executive Council. A predominately African-American community has asked me to come and speak on their behalf.

Right off the bat, I'll tell you we are in full

support of the renewal application and I'll tell you why.

Our community has come up with three primary reasons. One, the commitment to safety. We took a look at this very seriously. Anyone who has spoken before the GOULDS Coalition of Ministers knows that we grill our guests.

We asked FP&L to come in and they did. They were very responsive. We grilled them and we're satisfied with their commitment to safety. We're satisfied with their commitment to training and as the previous speaker just said, the importance of them continuing is because of our economic development.

South Dade, particularly again, speaking for an African-American community, south Dade is what we call a stepchild to the county, in our view. We are often overlooked in terms of support for the local government in terms of infrastructure, in terms of social services, in terms of anything across the board. We've lost quite a bit after Hurricane Andrew. We're still -- I know people are tired of hearing it, but the fact of the matter is -- we're still trying to recover in terms of job opportunities. We have lost quite a bit of our employment base here in south Dade, and Turkey Point plays a vital role in our economy here.

Our congregations -- I'm speaking for the pastors at this point -- many of our congregates are employees at

Turkey Point. They are satisfied with their place of employment and we want to support this application. All 17,000 families support this application. Good luck.

MR. CAMERON: Thank you, Reverend Greer. Our next three speakers are Dick Bauer, David Balch, and Cynthia O'Hare. Dick Bauer --

MR. BAUER: Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you this evening. My name is Dick Bauer. I'm a resident of the City of Homestead and the Regional Development Officer and vice-president for TIB Bank. TIB is a true, Community Bank with over 14 branches from Key West to Homestead. We will be opening our fourth branch in Homestead within the week here. TIB services much of the banking needs of the community to which Turkey Point provides the power.

Our business is quite simple. We take local deposits and reinvest them directly in the community in the form of loans to the businesses we serve. In other words, we provide the basis for business development, expansion, and job generation in this area.

Now the basis for our ability to make these loans is the deposits entrusted to us by our client/customers. That brings me to Turkey Point and its impact; the socio-economic impact of it, on this community and on our business.

Let me point out -- it may have been pointed out earlier, but the 800 or so employees of the plant earning an average of over $62,000 a year, bring to us and this community over $50 million annually in payroll. We believe that the overall economic impact of Turkey Point is in excess of $60 million a year when you include the cost of services and goods bought within our community. It is precisely those cash streams flowing to us through our local banks that provide the inventory for us to make loans both to businesses and to residents and so on, that forms the economic backbone of this community.

Now prior to joining TIB Bank I spent six years leading the Division Council, which is the local Economic Development organization here in the area. We were attempting, and it continues to attempt to deliver to this community, a balanced and viable economic base on which to grow. Now, in that effort the value is very high of our being able to point out to prospective businesses that the area has a well-established, resident workforce of over 800 highly-paid, highly-educated employees and their families at Turkey Point. That fact contrasts and balances the rural image of the community. That fact also adds to our credibility as we speak to the decision-makers in an attempt to get them to locate or expand their facilities in this area. We pointed that out to both Wal-Mart and Home Depot,

both of whom are new arrivals in this area within the past year. We have pointed that out to the Rockefeller Group from New York, which is an end to their prospective tenants as they begin to develop the Park of Commerce, which is adjacent to the Turkey Point Nuclear Plant and to the foreign trade zone which overrides that Park of Commerce.

I might add that based on my personal observations and visits at Turkey Point, I found the level of training and attention to safety and security to be extraordinarily high. I think their current operations record which reflects that, with over 6.5 million work hours without a lost-time accident at the plant.

In closing, we at TIB Bank firmly support Florida Power & Light's licensing renewal effort. We note that the site is established. There is no need for new land to be disturbed to build a new plant and we look forward to Florida Power & Light continuing to operate and deliver the reliable, low-cost energy to our residents and businesses. Thank you for your attention.

MR. CAMERON: Thank you, Mr. Bauer. Let's go to David Balch, from the United Way.

MR. BALCH: Thank you. It's my pleasure to be here for the United Way to talk about the Turkey Point facility and FPL's support for the community and the corporate responsibility that they have shown here. As the

largest private employer in south Dade, they really do set an example in the leadership for this community for others to follow.

I'd like to talk to you in terms of some of the examples they have set here. I've had the pleasure for 11 years to work with the facility at Turkey Point. The past year, since Bob Hovey has gotten here and his employees, it's such a pleasure to work with them because they care about this community. They give back to this community. There was a woman earlier here from the school system, Betty Thomas, who said FPL is the epitome here in terms of giving back to the community; that's what they represent.

The past year the Turkey Point facility raised over $150,000 for the United Way for this community. That is money that comes back to the community and makes this community enjoy a better quality of life.

Mr. Ivey was talking earlier about the difficulties that have been experienced here. We all know of that since Hurricane Andrew. Well FPL, the Turkey Point facility is still here. They are the ones that are trying to make a difference.

When we talk about -- not just the money that they raised, but it's also the example in terms of their time. We have here a number of examples. One example is the volunteers of Turkey Point facility work with

developmentally-challenged children at the Association for Retarded Citizens; many children that people don't really know about. This was a facility after Hurricane Andrew that was pretty much devastated. Well, the FPL employees went out there and helped rebuild that facility.

They act as mentors for the Big Brother and Big Sister Programs here in south Dade. They act as scout leaders for Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts in this community. For the last eight years they have provided both food and presents for kids that they have adopted in families at the Campbell Drive Elementary School. Many employees take their own time to mentor and help keep up the facilities at the Boys' Town locations in Miami-Dade County.

Both the employees and IBW put on an annual golf tournament for the Burn Center here in Miami-Dade County. They donate between 150-200 units of blood to the South Florida Blood Bank. You talk about the social services; it goes beyond that.

You heard Dr. Phillips with the Miami-Dade Community College earlier. They have a $200,000 scholarship fund for minority students in the Industrial Maintenance and Operations Program. They also sponsor students through the Inroads Miami Leadership Program. The list goes on here, but I think it's well said in terms of, they are here for the community. They are not just taking things from the

community. They are here; they're solid and they are giving it back to help rebuild this community. Thank you for the opportunity to speak.

MR. CAMERON: Thank you very much. Cynthia O'Hare? Okay. Our next speakers are going to be Dr. Brown, Ruben Rothschild, William Weaver, and Mary Finlan. I would ask Dr. Brown to come up and speak to us.

DR. BROWN: Thank you very much for the opportunity to speak. I had a class until 11:00 last night and one at 8:00 this morning and I didn't know if I was going to be here, so forgive me if I'm not as sharp as I'd like to be. I'm a little sleep-deprived right now.

My name is Jerry Brown. I teach at Florida International University. I've been there since the university opened in 1972. I received my PHD from Cornell University where I specialized in industrial systems. I am on the faculty of the Environmental Studies Program of the university, and I'm also a research associate with the Radiation and Public Health Project. That is a national research and educational organization consisting of radio-chemists, health physicians, medical doctors, and epidemiologists who have been studying and reviewing the evidence of the impact of low-level radiation on human health.

The basic premise of the brief questions I'd like

to raise for you are to suggest to you that there is new evidence both of an epidemiological nature and of a physical, clinical nature that indicates a direct link between Strontium-90 and other radioactive isotopes in the environment and our national cancer epidemic, including increases in breast cancer, men's prostate cancer, and unexplained increases in childhood cancer.

I would like to suggest that the EIS be expanded to consider this on a site-specific basis here for Turkey Point. I realize ladies and gentlemen that I'm asking you to pause for a moment -- to pause for a historical moment in the United States -- when we are paused to renew possibly all of the reactors in this country, to evaluate also the evidence -- all of the evidence that we've learned and that has been generated by people around the world on the possible impact of radiation; not only on cancer, but on other immune-related diseases.

The Radiation and Public Health Project of which I am a research associate, published a study in 1996 which analyzed all of the breast-cancer deaths in every county in the United States based on National Cancer Institute Data. What we found was that in the 1,300 nuclear counties, that is, those within 100 miles of a nuclear reactor, a woman's chance of dying of breast cancer was significantly increased if she lived within 100 miles of a nuclear reactor.

In the case of Turkey Point, the increase between the base period for white women's breast cancer death rate -- between the base period of 1950-1954, and the comparative period of 1985-1989, there was an increase of 26%. This was versus a U.S. average increase in breast cancer death rate of only 1%.

Around the St. Lucie Power Plant, also a Westinghouse plant, the increase was 56% -- one of the very highest in the nation. This is a correlation. We all know -- any of us involved with science -- that a correlation is not a proof. I got cancer, I drank milk; milk caused cancer.

However, when you see a statistically significant correlation, as scientists we would all ask ourselves the question: If this correlation is there, is there any physical evidence that radiological isotopes are entering our bodies and are entering our children's bodies? We have undertaken a study of baby teeth, particularly of Strontium-90 levels in baby teeth to see if Strontium-90 in the environment is entering the teeth of our children.

In the findings that we as the Radiation Public Health Project published in the International Journal of Health Services, entitled Strontium-90 in Deciduous Teeth as a Factor in Early Childhood Cancer which I'd be happy to share with you, we found study 515 baby teeth from New York,

New Jersey, and Florida -- particularly South Florida in the zip codes of 330 and 331, that the levels of Strontium-90 in these children's teeth as measured in terms of P.C.s per gram calcium, were at the level of the late 1950's, when the United States and the former Soviet Union were conducting routine tests of nuclear weapons in the atmosphere.

The measurement of radiation in baby teeth or in bone, because Strontium-90 as many of you know, is a bone seeker and identified by the body as calcium and taken into the bone or teeth, is a very well-established methodology being studied in 24 nations and in fact, there was an early baby-teeth study done by the St. Louis Group, in which 60,000 baby teeth were measured for Strontium-90 in the period of 1950, 1960, early 1970's, that showed from being undetectable as a man-made element, it increased fiftyfold.

President Kennedy through Jerome Wisener, his science advisor, reached out and used the evidence of that baby teeth and the projected correlation of increased childhood leukemia and cancer as one of the reasons for ratifying the historic 1963 Test Ban Treaty between the United States and the former Soviet Union. President Kruschev was receiving the same information from Dr. Sakarov, the father of the Soviet H-bomb.

In our measurements of Strontium-90 in baby teeth, we have found similar levels to the late 1950's. Bomb

testing in the United States having ended in 1963 -- the last Chinese aboveground bomb test having happened in 1980.

We conclude in our abstract to this article that these results strongly support a major role of nuclear reactor releases in the increase of cancer and other immune system-related disorders in young children since the early 1980's.

In this data we analyzed teeth from Suffolk County, New York, New Jersey, and Dade County-Miami for zip codes 330 and 331. Here we found the highest concentrations of Strontium-90 level in children's teeth -- of all the teeth we measured -- were here in Dade County. The highest maximum levels in our research of 17.87, the top maximum we found was also here in Dade County. What are possible reasons for this?

Well, we also know that in addition to the permitable releases which are well-known and published by the Brookhaven National Laboratories Reports -- permitable releases of the nuclear power plants -- that Turkey Point had a long period of steam-generator degradation, which started shortly after the plant's Units 3 and 4 went on line and continued until the repairs of the steam generators in the early 1980's.

The only other points that I would like to make are two. If Strontium-90 has been correlated with increases

in childhood cancer, what happens if we remove Strontium-90, which as most of you know is simply a marker -- if Strontium-90 is present in the human body, it is probably an indicator that other radioactive isotopes which are much more difficult to assay, are probably there. What happens if we remove radiation from the environment? Well, we've had the opportunity to look at the data out of seven nuclear reactors that were closed for one reason or another, including the Sacramento, California, Rancho Seco Reactor which was closed down in 1989.

There, looking at the epidemiological evidence we found dramatic improvements in infant health. These included decreases in child cancer, decreases in birth defects, improvements in low birth weight, and improvements in the infant mortality rate between one and four, and also improvements in elderly cancer death rate, which declined 8% in the 1989-1998 period, reversing a steady increase in the 1980's.

I understand very well that everyone involved in this industry and in this process is concerned about the community and I understand that we have had a very long history of believing that the allowable releases which are permitted in the normal course of nuclear operations are not a threat to public health.

I would like to submit to you that the fundamental

hypothesis is wrong, and ask you to pause in your consideration of the renewal of the Turkey Point license and the other ones that you will look at, but we're here today to talk about Turkey Point, to evaluate this evidence and to expand your EIS to include the epidemiological, the clinical, and the medical-case-study evidence to truly evaluate if there is reason to see an off-site radiological condition of a Category 1 impact on public health.

If it's there, it is also impacting the wildlife, it's impacting the trees, it's impacting the lobsters, it's impacting the prey factor. There is a sufficient period of time before the license renewal to evaluate this and this would be tremendously important because short of your doing this, with the resources that you have at your disposal and the cooperation of FP&L hopefully, and the responsibility entrusted to you by the government and people of the United States for public health and safety, we could evaluate this particular idea and this particular hypothesis.

We, in carrying out this research are supported also by concerned companies and institutions in this community. Applica (ph) Corporation, an $800 million New York Stock Exchange-listed company based here in Miami Lakes is a supporter of this research, and the prestigious Health Foundation of South Florida, which is a contributor to research and also to preventative programs, is a supporter

of this research.

We would like to share this research with you. We would like to invite you and FP&L in the review process of a full Environmental Impact Study, to conduct an epidemiological study going out in different radius from the plant, to conduct a biological study of the level of Strontium-90 in children's teeth, and finally, to do a case-controlled medical study to see if radiation being released from the Turkey Point Plant is contributing to our cancer factor in this community and to other illnesses.

We have talked a great deal, and no one doubts the importance and the contribution of energy to the growth and health of this nation. We also need to pause and ask ourselves if low-level radiation -- protracted exposure to small amounts of low-level ionizing radiation -- taken into men, women's and children's bodies over time is a significant factor in our cancer epidemic and other illnesses, what is the impact of that on the health and well-being of our communities and families?

I am not here to oppose or support the license renewal. I am simply here to share this research with you and ask you to expand the EIS to consider it. Thank you for your time.

MR. CAMERON: Thank you, Dr. Brown. Let's go to Ruben Rothschild.

MR. ROTHSCHILD: This is going to be a tough act to follow. My name is Ruben Rothschild and I'm proud to once again say I'm employed at Turkey Point and have a small part in the achievements and the recognition that Turkey Point has been safe.

I am a technical document reviewer at the plant. That means I review purchase documents for correctness; that they meet the current design requirements, and that they comply with local, State, and Federal requirements and regulations. I have been doing this for the plant for 13 years now.

In my career I've worked in the U.S. Navy in both conventional and nuclear submarines, I've worked in grey-iron foundries, food canneries, drum reconditioning plants, cement plants, earthmoving equipment manufacture, and fossil and nuclear plants. There have been some of these plants that had no Personal Safety Program at all. There have been some that have said they have a Personal Safety Program. FPL has a Personal Safety Program. Turkey Point has put into place an atmosphere -- a culture if you will -- of plant personal safety. They have in place simple methods of reporting safety concerns and reporting maintenance problems. These concerns are prioritized and handled promptly. Our record of over 6.5 million man hours worked without a lost-time accident shows that it works.

The other reason I'm here is to represent the South Florida Council of the Boy Scouts and the Thunderbird District of the Boy Scouts, which is the district that Turkey Point is in. I am the training chairman for the district and I'm responsible for training all the Cub Scout leaders, Boy Scout leaders, and Adventure leaders in the area.

I'd like to thank FP&L and Turkey Point Management for providing the facilities that each year we use. We put 36 boys through the Atomic Energy Merit Badge at the plant. The site vice-president, first Tom Plunkett then Bob Hovey, have extended a welcome to these boys and the leaders that have taken part. Most of the presenters from the simulator operators to the see-through reactor operator, the trainers that teach the boys the history of atomic energy and how to make a model atom and a model reactor, to the health physics personnel who show the boys how to use the detectors and how to dress in the protective clothing, are not scouters. They are interested employees giving of their own time.

The boys spend a full day of learning and fun at the plant. They are provided lunch, mementoes of their visit, and a Certificate of Completion. Turkey Point provides this at no charge to the Scouts.

Turkey Point also maintains a Scout Camp on the property just beyond the red barn. I have used this camp

for training Scout leaders in the fundamentals of scouting. My staff and the participants enjoy coming here because the facilities are good and maintained in an excellent manner. Thank you.

MR. CAMERON: Thank you, Ruben. How about William Weaver? Mr. Weaver --

MR. WEAVER: I'm William Weaver. We know that these power plants won't last forever. Sometime down the road, although 20% have already been decommissioned today, no longer generating power. How long is it going to be before these power plants -- new ones will start to be built to replace these older plants? This is the length of my questions.

MR. CAMERON: Chris, can you? -- We're not into questions now, but can you try to deal with Mr. Weaver's question?

MR. GRIMES:. There is no projected plan that is easily explained in terms of a plant that is that complex. Most people think that the reactor vessel will be the limiting component, but even now with economically viable annealing techniques for vessels -- in Asia they are looking at vessel-replacement programs. You know, we've been asked repeatedly to look at Asian effects for concrete structures and I often get confused when I am listening to my civil engineering colleagues, but one of them once pointed out

that the Roman roads are a concrete structure, so we don't think that will be the limiting component. It's going to come down to a point where, like an old car that can be continue to be restored and restored, you eventually reach a point where you say that it's costing too much to maintain it -- more than it's bringing in income. That's going to be a combination of these things. The cost of refurbishing major plant equipment as well as the ability to maintain it; having to replace paint, having to do more maintenance that, you know, conceivably that point is beyond 60 years, maybe beyond 100 years. It gets very difficult to pinpoint that and that's why the requirements that the NRC established for license renewal look at the maintenance processes and the inspection processes to basically -- we're going to identify that combination and conditions that essentially are going to drive a plant into concluding because it's costing too much.

MR. CAMERON: Okay. Thank you very much, Chris, and thank you, Mr. Weaver. Our last light of the night is Colonel Comber and I guess it's appropriate.

COLONEL COMBER: Last light?

MR. CAMERON: Yes. Why don't we start with you? Then we're going to go to Mr. Signorello, and Joe Brennan, Debra Vase, and Charles Munz. Colonel --

COLONEL COMBER: Good evening again. I was here

this afternoon and spoke. I just wanted to let you know that the 42nd Firemen over at Homestead Air Reserve Station really consider the environmental process highly important. Especially the scoping process that is going on this evening. Hence, our presence here to speak twice today.

The relationship that the Air Force at Homestead Air Reserve Station, formerly Homestead Air Force Base, has had with Turkey Point/FP&L over the past 30 years or so that I've been in the Air Force, and especially since January '74 when I first came to Homestead Air Force Base on active duty -- you know, now there are the reservists -- has been great.

Many people here probably know that Turkey Point was the site of the former Air Force-wide Sea Survival School -- Water Survival School -- up until the time of Andrew. It has now been consolidated with the Navy and it's called the Naval Air Station up in the panhandle. Today there are still many other services that conduct various types of training in and around Turkey Point. Since Andrew, not only is Homestead Air Reserve Station a neighbor, but we are now a customer. Years before, the Air Force used to have its own power. We are now big on outsourcing all of our utilities and we are a proud and satisfied customer of FP&L at Turkey Point. Thank you very much.

I just want everyone to know that we look forward to continuing this good working and neighborly relationship,

and as a reserve base, many of the people that we have in the reserves out at the base are employees of FP&L, and so you're part of us and we're part of you and we look forward to a good future. Thank you very much.

MR. CAMERON: Thank you, Colonel. How about Mr. Signorello?

MR. SIGNORELLO: Thank you. My name is Mario Signorello and I've been a part of this community or whatever, for an event for the past six years. What are event is, is the Homestead Challenge. We put on a baseball tournament. There are 100 college teams that come in every spring for 37 days and play baseball games.

So how does a nuclear plant effect the baseball tournament? Well, I'll tell you. Turkey Point and FPL -- this is more than just a nuclear plant out here -- they are part of the community and they have a niche in the community. How do they effect us? Well, they come to games, they buy sky boxes, they buy tickets, they volunteer on our board, they sell tickets, they go to airports and pick people up, they keep the scoreboard for us, and they escort teams. Their families come to games. When families come to games, they not only buy tickets. They park, they buy food, they eat -- hopefully, they eat a lot, they buy T-shirts, and they become part of what we do.

Also the other part is when the visitors come in,

frequently because of the way our event happens during the down time, is when a lot of the visitors are coming in and we are an entertainment value for them being where we are located out here.

The economic impact that you gave of $60 million is way low. As one who works with grants, if you're going to apply any of the economic -- the multiplying factors, I think -- How does the $60 million of this revenue -- this is revenue that gets resourced out, but those dollars get spent many times back in the community. As in our events, as in the restaurants and the hotels; the Publix sells more food and sells more because of that. They hire more employees because of that. The employees have more discretionary income and more money to spend in the community. That gets multiplied about two or three times, but your figure of $60 million would more likely be between $150-200 million.

The quality of the people and professional organization, the skilled labor, the educated and the families that they bring, that's all a part of the central part of the community and makes it up.

With all due respect to some of the other gentlemen who spoke before about possible threats because of Cuba, and a space port, and other things they brought up, it kind of reminded me of a few years ago when I saw -- about 10 years ago there was a gentleman on Johnny Carson who was

101 years old and still working as a waiter. Johnny ask him if he watched television, or watch the show. He said, no he didn't because he didn't watch any television. Every time they turn it on and they are watching, they hear Don't do this, don't do that. This will get you. That will get you. He said, Johnny, I'm 101 years old and whatever I've been doing it has seemed to work.

Now the people at FP&L we kind of leave that up to -- that's your job to make sure of the safety. The removal via the economic impact for -- now, I'm concerned about the community and the environmental impact too. Not only am I concerned about the environmental impact, but also for the economics of what FP&L brings here besides just the jobs in the community. That's the reason we support it. Thank you.

MR. CAMERON: Thank you. Mr. Brennan --

MR. BRENNON: Hi. My name is Joe Brennan. I am an officer for the International Electrical Workers and Chief Job Steward at Turkey Point Nuclear Plant, and also a machinist at Turkey Point Nuclear Plant. My union represents approximately 1,000 FPL employees in Dade County, 300 hundred of which, work at Turkey Point Nuclear Plant.

Throughout the years -- I've been down there for seven years -- throughout those seven years we've had an outstanding safety work not only in personal safety, but also nuclear safety through the process of our maintenance.

We are pretty highly trained. We are able to keep our unit at a record 516 days on there.

Our local union also through fund raisers was able to donate over $10,000 to Miami Cancer and Burn Center over the last seven years. We hope to continue to do that. We support the $52 million operation of the plant. As workers down there, we feel they are doing an excellent job. We're the FPL employees that you don't see. You see the linemen out there working on your electrical wires out there, you see their professionalism and the quality of the work that they do for you to get your electricity back on or continue. We have that same professionalism and quality of work at the plant and we would like to petition that we continue to be able to do that. Thank you very much.

MR. CAMERON: Thank you, Mr. Brennan. Okay. Next we're going to go to Debra Vase.

MS. VASE: Good evening. Thank you, NRC, Mr. Cameron, and everyone here. I appreciate the opportunity to speak and have an input on what happens in my community in the future.

At first thought I felt nuclear power would be extremely dangerous. My initial image of nuclear power was from what television had portrayed, so I also believed this to be true of the Turkey Point Nuclear Power Plant. I believed that direct or indirect contact if there was a

spill or fallout would cause my skin to dissolve from my body and cause me to glow. I now know that Turkey Point Nuclear Power Plant is safe for the environment and the community. It has the evidence and the safety record to prove it.

As a member of the Turkey Point community I was curious about its practices. So when an opportunity presented itself for me to visit the plant, although fearful I was very much interested. I was equally surprised by the fact that I did not have to don a bulky suit or a gas mask to walk around the plant. I saw employees walking around with no visible fears. This in itself proved to me that my thinking was wrong and I began to think outside of that fearful box.

At this point, if I could think anything negative about Turkey Point it would be that if I came in contact with anything that -- if the wildlife or myself were contacted by any radiation that -- I would get larger, the fish would be huge, but if I look at that and look at myself, I would have to divy up the responsibility of my being larger to McDonald's and Burger King and the fact that my mom taught me how to cook good, and not just here in south Dade, but also in Louisiana and other states that I've visited.

First, I'd like to tell you that I learned many

things about FPL's commitment to the environmental safety. Next, I'd like to say that I learned that Turkey Point is monitored by the State of Florida to ensure environmental safety. FPL has been recognized and awarded by the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce for its environmental business practices. Their work with the American Crocodile, such as establishing cooling canals, which has been an important productive factor in the breeding and nursing of the crocodiles and has been featured in National Geographic. Most of the property surrounding Turkey Point is a natural habitat for animals such as threatened, endangered species, and wild birds.

If Turkey Point is closed who will maintain this wildlife? Who will put forth the effort? Where would the revenue come from to protect these species that are endangered and that are very vital to our system? Turkey Point manages its own ecosystem. When they leave, if their license is not renewed, who will step in and take care of that for us?

The State of Florida monitors the water and the air surrounding the plant and have found that Turkey Point meets the standards of the Federal government. Therefore, there is no need for bulky suits or gas masks.

I am pleased to say that what I have learned about FPL's nuclear power plant has dispelled all of my fears. I

have had two visits and have even eaten on-site. I do not glow, my skin is intact, and I've lived in the community all my life. I am a native Floridian born and raised here. I have only ventured out now and again, and I always find my way back home.

Living in the area that Turkey Point supplies, I stand here in favor of the license renewal for Florida Power & Light's nuclear power plant. I thank you again for the opportunity to speak on behalf of my community.

MR. CAMERON: Thank you, Debra. Mr. Munz -- Charles Munz?

MR. MUNZ: Good evening. My name is Charles Munz. I was born and raised in Homestead and I live in the Redlands now. Being in the engineering contracting business, in fact, my family did some of the site work in the cooling canals originally when this plant was opened, I'm here in support of the application.

I think this community really needs Turkey Point and the employees financially and with all the community support they give. Environmentally, I've been out there and we do some work out there. If you all haven't been out there, it doesn't get any better. If you haven't had an opportunity to go out there and visit the site and the surrounding areas -- the cooling canals -- and watch the habitat of the crocodiles and all the birds, you're really

missing out.

I'm just here to support the application and the community needs to back them up 100%. Thank you.

MR. CAMERON: Thank you, Mr. Munz. I believe we're going to go to our last speaker for the night. This is Mr. Thomas Cullen, and I'll let him tell you what he does. Mr. Cullen --

MR. CULLEN: Thank you. Ladies and gentlemen, I'm the Radiological Emergency Preparedness Coordinator -- a long title -- for Monroe County. I work in Emergency Management.

I'd like to talk to you about the impact of the Florida Power & Light plant as it applies to Monroe County, and also direct some remarks to questions that have been raised earlier tonight.

My job is to make preparedness plans for the 85,000 plus citizens of Monroe County in the event that there were a radiological emergency at the Turkey Point Plant. My budget, my salary is paid for by Florida Power & Light, but I'm an employee of the county and my allegiance is to those people of the county.

One of the things that we have are a number of jobs in the county that receive training from the Radiological Preparedness Program. As you may be aware, in the county we have very few jobs that are not service-

related. One of the advantages of the Florida Power & Light plant is that we have a significant number of their employees who live in Monroe County. It's nice that they are able to take their paychecks and support the majority of Monroe County who work in service-related fields; waiters, waitresses, bar tenders, etcetera.

The only complaints that we have in Monroe County that I've heard about the Turkey Point Plant is the soot that dirties people's boats and houses and that comes from the fossil plant, not from the nuclear plant. I don't understand how you can have a plant that generates no greenhouse gases, no soot, no smoke, it's in one of the most sensitive areas of the country; the wildlife, the plants, everything there is thriving and we're talking about putting another fossil plant somewhere around here?

I moved down to Florida from a large northeastern city. I got sick and tired of every day driving in to work and being able to tell where the fossil-generating power plants were by the smog cloud that was hanging overhead. I moved to the Keys because I like clean air, clean water , and a clean environment.

I've heard Dr. Brown's comments about the problems that were found. Since I've taken this job, I have received a lot of training. I don't pretend to be an expert. My bachelor of science degree is in business administration,

and I have a law degree. I'm not a scientist, but I heard about the report. I tried to get a copy of it and did some investigation about it. As the Doctor was kind enough to tell us, Strontium-90 originally was a problem back in the 50's. It is my understanding that Strontium-90 comes from weapons-grade nuclear materials which we don't find in a nuclear power plant.

The fact that the St. Lucie area and the Dade County area has a high incidence of cancer -- they also have a high incidence of seniors and other people like myself and like probably many people in this room, who came from elsewhere in the country. I would ask the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to look at not only what the problems are in the area, but see how many of those health problems were borrowed.

I look at the funding. We've all heard about the economic impact here in the Dade County/Homestead area. In the Keys as I said, my job, my function is funded by Florida Power & Light. I attend drills there, I attend training there, and I'm going to get back to my job in a little bit, but when I look at the safety of the plant, they are the only plant in the country that has received three consecutive superior ratings in safety from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. They are constantly running drills out there for emergency preparedness. That's the part of

the plant that I deal with. I was out there yesterday on a drill. I'm going to be there next Thursday on a drill.

Every job that I've had both up north and down here, excuse the term, I've met dummies on that job. I haven't met any dummies at Florida Power & Light. I've met professionals. I've met some of the best experts in nuclear safety that you could hope to wish for. These people and their families live near the plant. These people are not crazy. If there was a problem they wouldn't be living near the plant. They wouldn't have their children near the plant. Most of these people have 30, 20, or more years involved in the nuclear industry either with the Navy or other branches of the government. They are all professionals.

That brings me back to the other part of my job and the impact on Monroe County. Because of the safety record at Florida Power & Light, because of the fact that we only have to prepare for and conduct some drills -- we don't have to deal with actual emergencies -- I'm able to spend a good deal of time on other emergency management functions, which are a threat; hurricanes, tornadoes, hazardous material incidents not involving radiological from the power plant. We've also been able to train our Fire and Rescue people in dealing with radiological emergencies having nothing to do with the power plant. Do you have any idea

how much radioactive material travels up and down highways -- the roadways of the Florida Keys in particular, with radioactive pharmaceuticals and other materials the hospitals trade? How many people in this room know of somebody who has received some type of radioactive medical treatment? That stuff is riding up and down your highways all the time. That is a problem that we've been able to address in the Keys because of the contribution of Florida Power & Light to our economy.

I would ask you, please renew their license. We need them. The environment needs them. Thank you.

MR. CAMERON: Thank you, Mr. Cullen.

Well, I'd like to thank all of you for not only your good comments tonight, but also your attention and courtesy. I would just ask my colleagues Cindy or Chris, whether they want to say anything to close the meeting out? Okay. Go ahead, Chris.

MR. GRIMES: I just wanted to point out that we want to thank you for your comments and your input. As Chip mentioned, we're going to take the transcript and then sort these issues out. We will be contacting some of you who have made some comments and asked us to look into things, and we'd like to find the sources of the material so that we can look into them. Then in accordance with the process, we will sort through those comments and evaluate them and we'll

try to provide prompt and effective feedback to you. Thank you very much for your comments.

MR. CAMERON: Thank you. We are adjourned.

(Whereupon, at 9:35 p.m., the meeting was adjourned.)

Written material provided at December 6, 2000 scoping meeting:

1. Letter dated December 6, 2000, from Alex Penelas, Mayor of Miami-Dade County, Florida.
2. Letter dated December 6, 2000, from Robert L. Epling, President of Community Bank of Florida.
3. Information dated October 30, 2000, submitted by Joette Lorion, regarding "Section 602 Sense of Congress Concerning Homestead Air Force Base."
4. Testimony of Angelina S. Howard, Executive Vice President, Nuclear Energy Institute, regarding the "Public Meeting to Discuss Environmental Scoping Process for the Turkey Point Units 3 and 4 License Renewal Application."
5. Letter from A. Bennett, owner of the Mutineer Restaurant.
6. Letter dated December 6, 2000, from Eric S. Johnson, Senior Executive Vice President, Community Bank of Florida.
7. Resolution dated August 17, 2000, from the Board of Directors of the Greater Homestead/Florida City Chamber of Commerce.
8. Information submitted by Joette Lorion, regarding the "Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan."