



## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

ALEX PENELAS  
MAYOR

December 6, 2000

Good Evening,

I would like to welcome the members of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to Miami-Dade County and thank them for their professionalism and commitment on this very important endeavor.

Florida Power and Light and the services they provide are an important component of Miami-Dade County; and, likewise, the Turkey Point Nuclear Plant is an equally important component of South Miami-Dade County. For these reasons, I would like to explain why I support the license renewal of the Turkey Point Nuclear Plant:

- Miami-Dade County is a growing community with increasing demands for electricity. By approving the license, Turkey Point Nuclear Plant will be able to provide South Florida with safe, clean reliable and economical electricity well into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.
- Turkey Point Nuclear Plant is one of the safest and best-run nuclear plants in the country as judged by its regulators and its peers. It has consistently received top ratings from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and by the Institute of Nuclear Power Operations.
- Miami-Dade County has a very strong record of its commitment to protect its natural environment. The Turkey Point employees have developed a unique stewardship of the environment in the region surrounding the Plant by preserving the natural habitat surrounding the Plant, providing homes to many endangered species, including the American Crocodile.
- Miami-Dade County is a diverse community with many needs. The Turkey Point employees are caring neighbors to communities surrounding the Plant. Its employees continually make significant contributions to community and civic organizations.
- Turkey Point Nuclear Plant is one of the largest employers in the region with over 800 employees and its purchase of local services helps sustain the economy of South Miami-Dade County.

I appreciate being allowed to enter these comments into the record and enabling me to demonstrate why I support Turkey Point Nuclear Plant's license renewal application.

Thank you, again, for your commitment and the time you have spent executing your significant responsibilities as a Commission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex Penelas".

Alex Penelas  
Mayor



December 6, 2000

Nuclear Regulatory Committee  
 OWFN  
 11555 Rockville Pike  
 Rockville, MD 20852

RE: Turkey Point Nuclear Plant License Renewal

Gentlemen:

We firmly support the re-licensing of the Turkey Point Plant.

For more than twenty-five years, Turkey Point has been a good neighbor to the South Dade community. Recalling the early days of operations, our expectations in creation of jobs, and as well as its safety record, have been fulfilled.

During the past two decades, we have come to know employees of Turkey Point as our friends and neighbors. They are active in many civic organizations and youth groups making our community a better place to live.

To the best of our knowledge, Turkey Point has outstanding environmental and safety records.

My family and I reside within seven miles of Turkey Point and are comfortable in knowing the plant will provide the same safe, reliable power in the years ahead as it does today.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Epling  
 President

RLE/jmr

1 (p) SEVERABILITY.—If any provision or remedy pro-  
 2 vided by this section is found to be unconstitutional or  
 3 unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, any  
 4 remaining provisions in this section shall remain valid and  
 5 enforceable.

6 **SEC. 602. SENSE OF CONGRESS CONCERNING HOMESTEAD**  
 7 **AIR FORCE BASE.**

8 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

9 (1) the Everglades is an American treasure and  
 10 includes uniquely-important and diverse wildlife re-  
 11 sources and recreational opportunities;

12 (2) the preservation of the pristine and natural  
 13 character of the South Florida ecosystem is critical  
 14 to the regional economy;

15 (3) as this legislation demonstrates, Congress  
 16 believes it to be a vital national mission to restore  
 17 and preserve this ecosystem and accordingly is au-  
 18 thORIZING a significant Federal investment to do so;

19 (4) Congress seeks to have the remaining prop-  
 20 erty at the former Homestead Air Base conveyed  
 21 and reused as expeditiously as possible, and several  
 22 options for base reuse are being considered, includ-  
 23 ing as a commercial airport; and

24 (5) Congress is aware that the Homestead site  
 25 is located in a sensitive environmental location, and

*Submitted by  
Joette Lorian*

1 that Biscayne National Park is only approximately  
2 1.5 miles to the east, Everglades National Park ap-  
3 proximately 8 miles to the west, and the Florida  
4 Keys National Marine Sanctuary approximately 10  
5 miles to the south.

6 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
7 gress that—

8 (1) development at the Homestead site could  
9 potentially cause significant air, water, and noise  
10 pollution and result in the degradation of adjacent  
11 national parks and other protected Federal re-  
12 sources;

13 (2) in their decisionmaking, the Federal agen-  
14 cies charged with determining the reuse of the re-  
15 maining property at the Homestead base should  
16 carefully consider and weigh all available informa-  
17 tion concerning potential environmental impacts of  
18 various reuse options;

19 (3) the redevelopment of the former base should  
20 be consistent with restoration goals, provide desir-  
21 able numbers of jobs and economic redevelopment  
22 for the community, and be consistent with other ap-  
23 plicable laws;

24 (4) consistent with applicable laws, the Sec-  
25 retary of the Air Force should proceed as quickly as

1 practicable to issue a final SEIS and Record of De-  
2 cision so that reuse of the former air base can pro-  
3 ceed expeditiously;

4 (5) following conveyance of the remaining sur-  
5 plus property, the Secretary, as part of his oversight  
6 for Everglades restoration, should cooperate with the  
7 entities to which the various parcels of surplus prop-  
8 erty were conveyed so that the planned use of those  
9 properties is implemented in such a manner as to re-  
10 main consistent with the goals of the Everglades res-  
11 toration plan; and

12 (6) not later than August 1, 2002, the Sec-  
13 retary should submit a report to the appropriate  
14 committees of Congress on actions taken and make  
15 any recommendations for consideration by Congress.

16 **TITLE VII—MISSOURI RIVER.**  
17 **RESTORATION, NORTH DAKOTA**

18 **SEC. 701. SHORT TITLE.**

19 This title may be cited as the “Missouri River Protec-  
20 tion and Improvement Act of 2000”.

21 **SEC. 702. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

22 (a) **FINDINGS.**—Congress finds that—

23 (1) the Missouri River is—



N U C L E A R  
E N E R G Y  
I N S T I T U T E

**TESTIMONY AT:**

**“PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS  
ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING PROCESS FOR  
THE TURKEY POINT UNITS 3 AND 4  
LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION”**

*Angelina S. Howard  
Executive Vice President  
Nuclear Energy Institute*

*December 6, 2000*

Good Afternoon. I'm Angie Howard, executive vice president of the Nuclear Energy Institute. I am very pleased to be with you today and proud to be part of such an open and worthwhile forum. I have devoted nearly 30 years to learning about—and working with—nuclear energy from the inside out and hope that my experience will inform you about this important relicensing process.

The Nuclear Energy Institute is a Washington, D.C.-based policy organization that represents more than 300 U.S. and international companies in the nuclear energy industry.

Our membership includes every U.S. utility that owns and operates a nuclear power plant, their suppliers, fuel cycle companies, universities, radiopharmaceutical firms and research laboratories, labor unions and law firms

Nuclear energy provides about 20 percent of America's electricity. This electricity is produced by 103 nuclear plants situated in communities across the nation—neighborhoods people are proud to call home.

The U.S. nuclear energy industry's focus on safety has laid the groundwork for the continued safe, reliable and cost-effective operation of these nuclear power plants. A concern for people's safety is paramount in all that we do, and as an industry we are very proud of our safety record.

Nuclear energy offers a wide array of benefits to our communities, to our economy and to our environment. I would like to describe some of these benefits and why relicensing nuclear plants in general—and the units at Turkey Point in particular—makes good sense.

Our economy has experienced tremendous growth in the past 10 years—and with that growth has come a greatly increased demand for electricity. Computers, the Internet—all of our most modern conveniences consume large quantities of electricity—as does manufacturing those goods.

The digital economy that is now part of everyone's life in America has grown because we have been able to generate, transmit and deliver reliable, economical power. And nuclear energy—because it supplies this country's growing urban and suburban populations—has played a vital role in fueling this economic success.

But, beyond that, nuclear electricity is produced without emitting any greenhouse gases or other air pollutants. Without nuclear energy, many areas of the country would not be in compliance with the Clean Air Act. Not only would this threaten air quality and the quality of life in our communities, but our country's economic growth could be seriously jeopardized as well.

Also, nuclear energy ensures U.S. energy security. Nuclear electricity lessens our dependence on foreign oil and it is not subject to the volatile price fluctuations we have seen occur in past decades—and most recently in some areas of the U.S.

Nuclear energy also makes a direct and valuable contribution to our national economy. Nuclear energy companies play an important role in the economic life of towns and counties around the nation. They are a source of employment and economic activity that supports families, regional businesses, and also local governments as they provide residents with essential educational and social services. From direct employment and taxes flow a whole range of other economic benefits that ripple through these communities and which—in turn—contribute to the lives of many other people.

Clearly, nuclear energy generation is vital to our economy and our society—and it will likely play an increasingly valuable role in the future as the demand for electricity continues to grow along with the country's population.

Today's meeting is an important milestone in the schedule established by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for reviewing Florida Power & Light's license renewal application for the two units at Turkey Point Nuclear Station.

Five license renewals have already been granted in the U.S., five renewals are currently being reviewed by the NRC—including Turkey Point—and operators of 28 other units have indicated to the NRC that they intend to also file for renewal.

This renewal process has evolved and has been thoughtfully and deliberately refined over a long time period. The process is now well established, and its focus on safety—and the inclusion of all stakeholders—is a significant achievement.

Many years ago the agency began preparing for these expected license renewals by carefully and meticulously identifying the types and severity of environmental impacts that could occur as a result of license renewal.

After much discussion and input from state governments, members of the public, critics of nuclear energy, and the nuclear industry, the NRC concluded that there were a number of environmental issues that were common to all plants. It was agreed that these issues would be best addressed generically—in a generic environmental impact statement—which has been done.

By addressing these common issues in a generic manner, the NRC has allowed for a greater and deeper focus on those issues that are deemed to be unique to the individual plant seeking renewal.

Today's public meeting ensures that no important environmental issues are overlooked as the NRC continues its evaluation of Turkey Point's license renewal application. The purpose of this meeting is to receive public comments on what environmental issues the NRC should consider during its review of Turkey Point's request. This process and our discussions today will inform the draft environmental impact statement—specific to Turkey Point—to be issued next year.

This is an open process. Throughout the license renewal evaluation, the NRC has a demonstrated, clear commitment to keeping concerned citizens and stakeholders apprised of its progress. Updates are posted on the Internet, and all efforts are made to provide meaningful information to all parties interested in this process.

What exactly does license renewal mean?

Although Turkey Point consistently meets the electricity needs of this large and prosperous region, license renewal is not about deciding the best way to provide power to any one region.

The license renewal process is more importantly about safety. The NRC's role in license renewal is to determine—from a safety standpoint—whether a nuclear power plant may continue to operate safely beyond its current license term. The NRC's focus has been and always will be safety and the protection of the public.

Focussing on safety also means reviewing any potential environmental impacts from the plant's operation. To support the development of an environmental impact statement, this involves looking at how the plant interacts with the land, water and air, threatened or endangered species and many other issues.

From an overall perspective, the extension of Turkey Point Nuclear Plant's license means it will be able to contribute 20 more years of strong social and environmental benefits—and continued reliable power to Floridians.

The Turkey Point record is exemplary and its focus on safety is steadfast. The plant has been recognized both in the U.S. and internationally for its safe plant operations. Last year, Turkey Point was the only U.S. nuclear plant to receive Power Magazine's prestigious 1999 Power Plant Award for superior performance and industry leadership. The plant has also earned consistent superior performance reviews from the NRC and the industry.

And, just this year Turkey Point was awarded The Environmental Good Citizen Award by the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce for its world-class sanctuary for the endangered American crocodile. Clearly, Turkey Point Nuclear Plant is a good citizen, in every sense of that word.

There are many clear benefits to extending Turkey Point's license, but in concluding, I would like to summarize three key reasons:

**First**, license renewal will allow this region of Florida to continue to have electricity that does not produce greenhouse gases or other air pollutants, such as sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxide and particulates.

As controls on these emissions become increasingly strict, sources of electricity that do not add to these emissions will play an even greater role in power generation. Nuclear power contributes two-thirds of the nation's generating capacity that avoids emissions—hydro is second with one-third—solar, wind and geothermal contribute less than one percent combined. Nuclear provides vast amounts of electricity, on demand, without adding to the already critical emissions problem that exists in the U.S.

**Second**, license renewal will preserve good jobs for the people of this community and continue to contribute substantial tax revenues to this region. Turkey Point Nuclear Plant is a very proud member of this community and will continue to be so in the years ahead.

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

The proposed renewal of Turkey Point Nuclear Plant's operating license is important to this community. It is important to the people in the greater, south-Florida region who rely on the plant to power their lives. And, it is important to your environment.

Thank you.



To Whom It May Concern:

The Mutineer Restaurant located in Florida City, ten miles west of the Turkey Point Plant, supports the re-licensing proposal developed by Florida Power & Light. For the past 20 years since the establishment of the Mutineer, Turkey Point has been an exceptional neighbor, an asset to our restaurant and an overall benefit to the Florida City/ Homestead Community.

The employees at the plant use our community services each day, providing income to our city and jobs for our residents. The loss of the Turkey Point employment base would be similar to the effects felt by the loss of the Homestead Air Force Base after Hurricane Andrew. The Florida City and Homestead community cannot afford to lose another major employer.

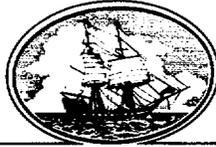
Electricity that the Turkey Point Plant provides to our area is a necessary and essential commodity. It is not a service the community can just do without. In addition, nuclear generation is currently the least expensive method of providing electricity in our area.

The Turkey Point Plant has an excellent safety record; they are rated as one of the safest and most reliable nuclear power plants in the world. Turkey Point recently received three consecutive superior ratings from the NRC.

Nuclear generation of electricity is environmentally friendly. Turkey Point's cooling canals are a closed circuit, so no water is released to Biscayne Bay or the ocean. The cooling canals also provide a warm ecosystem in the winter for birds and other wildlife. The protected American crocodile use the canals to nest and hatch their babies each year. A loss of the warm canal system could actually adversely affect the wildlife that has become accustomed to its constant heat source.

Nuclear generation of electricity does not rely upon the burning of fossil fuels, so the air is protected too. No pollutants are emitted, so our air will remain cleaner and safer for everyone.

Sometimes well-intentioned organizations are shortsighted in their pursuits. It's obvious that we must generate electricity one way or another. The primary alternative is fossil fuel. Oil is in short supply, expensive and not in our national interest to increase consumption. If Turkey Point were to use coal, it would certainly add pollutants to the air, which is harmful to all wildlife and agricultural products. In addition, the fossil fuels



# MUTINEER

· RESTAURANT ·

would be transported by barge across Biscayne Bay increasing the possibility of an ecological disaster.

These are only a few reasons why we want to ensure the Turkey Point Nuclear Plant remains in service. They are a benefit to the Mutineer, the community and our wildlife. The Mutineer would like to see Turkey Point's operating license extended.

Sincerely,



December 6, 2000

Nuclear Regulatory Committee  
 OWFN  
 11555 Rockville Pike  
 Rockville, MD 20852

RE: Turkey Point Plant License Renewal

To Whom It May Concern:

I strongly support the Turkey Point Re-licensing effort. Turkey Point has been an excellent neighbor, as witnessed by myself, as I have lived in this community for over 35 years.

They are the single largest private employer of the South Dade Community with over 800 full time employees with annual base salaries over \$62,000. I know, and have known, several employees who work at the Plant and live in the surrounding areas who participate in numerous civic organizations and support our local community events.

The economic impact of Turkey Point on the local area community is felt in payroll, property taxes and support of area local services and their product purchases.

Turkey Point has an excellent environmental record. It has been demonstrated over the years with their strong commitment to the environment, which is represented by their support of the South Florida Eco system, and demonstrated most assuredly by their safety record.

They are rated as one of the most reliable nuclear power plants in the United States and have consistently had "superior" ratings from the regulators, you - the NRC.

The Plant is located approximately 8-9 miles east of my home. I have worked and resided in the general vicinity during this entire period. Never have I had any alarm or concern as a result of the Power Plant's location, but only found them to be quiet, outstanding neighbor that serves the local community, and beyond. I believe strongly that the re-license should be granted.

Cordially,

Eric S. Johnson  
 Senior Executive Vice President  
 Community Bank of Florida  
 28801 SW 157 Avenue  
 Homestead, FL 33030

Eric Johnson  
 16330 SW 282 Street  
 Homestead, FL

Post Office Box 900400, Homestead, Florida 33090-0400

28801 S.W. 157th Avenue, Homestead, FL 33033 • 305-245-2211 • <http://www.communitybankfl.com>



The undersigned, The Greater Homestead/Florida City Chamber of Commerce, does here certify that the following resolution was duly adopted at a meeting duly called and held on August 17, 2000.

**A resolution from the Board of Directors of the Greater Homestead/Florida City Chamber of Commerce, in support of the license renewal for Florida Power and Light's Turkey Point plant to allow the plant to continue to safely produce electricity for an additional 20 years beyond the year 2013.**

**WHEREAS,** The Board of Directors of the Greater Homestead/Florida City Chamber of Commerce is aware of the proposed license renewal for Turkey Point,

**WHEREAS,** Florida Power and Light's Turkey Point Plant is located in the Homestead/Florida City area and provides 900 jobs, and

**WHEREAS,** Turkey Point generates over 1,400 million watts of electricity, enough to supply the annual needs of approximately 250,000 homes, and

**WHEREAS,** Since 1995, Turkey Point is the only nuclear plant in the nation to consistently achieve the highest performance rating from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission,

**WHEREAS,** We believe Turkey Point is both safe and cost efficient, ensuring safe, high-quality, low-cost power, and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** this 17<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2000, that the Board of Directors of the Greater Homestead/Florida City Chamber of Commerce does hereby support the renewal of the operating license of Turkey Point.

**Greater Homestead/Florida City Chamber of Commerce  
Board of Directors Meeting August 17, 2000  
Members Present**

David Peyton  
First National Bank of Homestead

Thomas Weller  
Weller & Losner

Mario Espineira, Jr.  
Deco Truss Company

Jane McMillan  
Stokes, McMillan, Schiller & Maracini

Marlene Porter  
Community Bank of Florida

Lynn Hunt  
South Dade High School

Corey Gold  
Homestead Hospital

Steve Bateman  
Two Brothers Construction Company

Ada Bill  
Florida Power and Light

Ignacio Fiallos  
Ground Zero Communications

Joe Hunt  
Farm Credit of South Florida

David Passmore  
Carl Pelt & Sons, Inc.

Danny Lipe  
Community Bank of Florida

David Cunigan  
TIB Bank of the Keys

Dr. Roy Phillips  
Miami-Dade Community College

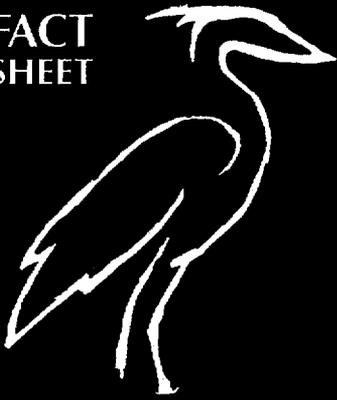
Curtis Ivy  
City of Homestead

General Charles Stenner  
Homestead Air Reserve Base

Mary Finlan  
Chamber of Commerce

# Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan

## FACT SHEET



The Florida Everglades was once a vibrant, free-flowing river of grass that provided clean water from Lake Okeechobee to Florida Bay. Today, this extraordinary ecosystem is dying. Over the past half century, the health and size of the Everglades have steadily declined. Lost to drainage and development, the Everglades is suffering from a severe shortage of clean, reliable water.

To ensure and preserve South Florida's natural environment, enhance water supplies, and maintain flood protection, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, in partnership with the South Florida Water Management District, has developed a plan to save the Everglades. The Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan calls for a series of ecological and water system improvements over more than 20 years. The estimated cost of the plan, to be shared equally by the federal government and the state of Florida, is \$7.8 billion.

America's Everglades is a national treasure beyond measure. To save it, we must act now. The Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan enables us to do this by capturing precious freshwater that now flows to the sea - freshwater that will help ensure a healthy environment and a strong, sustainable economy for us and for future generations.

### Specifically, the Plan:

- Improves the health of over 2.4 million acres of the South Florida ecosystem, including Everglades and Biscayne National Parks;
- Improves the health of Lake Okeechobee;
- Virtually eliminates damaging freshwater releases to the estuaries;
- Improves water deliveries to Florida and Biscayne Bays;
- Improves water quality; and
- Enhances water supply and maintains flood protection



### How the Everglades Restoration Plan helps you:

- Improves the quality and quantity of water for drinking and irrigation
- Creates a more hospitable South Florida for you and wildlife
- Reduces the number of times you will experience water use restrictions
- Helps to restore South Florida's unique and breathtaking natural environment so that entire families can appreciate and enjoy it for generations to come



### What you need to know:

- The Everglades and South Florida's ecosystem has been significantly altered
- The Everglades is not receiving the proper quantity or quality of water at the right place or the right time
- If we do not act now,
  - The health of the Everglades, the coastal estuaries, and Lake Okeechobee will continue to decline;
  - A number of plants and animals now living in South Florida will become extinct;
  - The quality of inland and coastal waters will further deteriorate;
  - Water shortages for urban and agricultural users will occur more frequently;
  - The current level of flood protection could be jeopardized

### Steps you can take to help now:

- Practice better water conservation at home (i.e., take shorter showers, don't leave water running for long periods of time, etc.)
- Learn more about the Everglades and how to restore it
- Spread the word in your community
- Invite us to come and make a presentation to your community or organization. Call 1-877-Glades1 or e-mail [theresa.e.woody@usace.army.mil](mailto:theresa.e.woody@usace.army.mil)



### Where you can get more information:

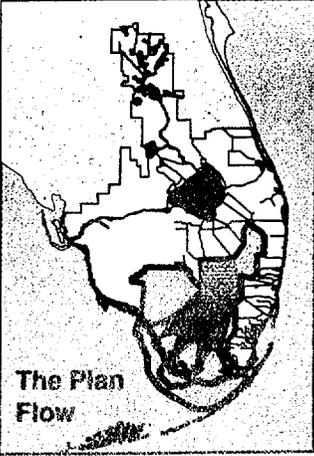
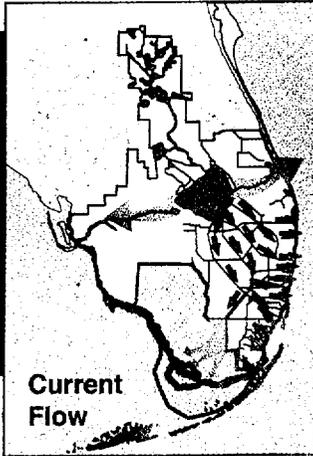
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Jacksonville District  
P.O. Box 4970  
Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019

904-232-2235  
[www.Evergladesplan.org](http://www.Evergladesplan.org)

South Florida Water Management District  
3301 Gun Club Road  
P.O. Box 24680  
West Palm Beach, FL  
33416-4680

1-877-Glades1 (toll free)  
in Florida only

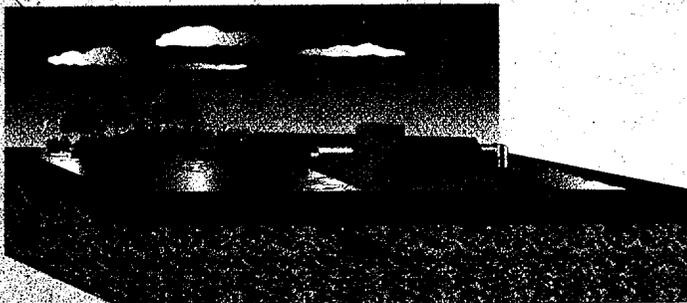
Submitted by Joette Horin



Water once freely flowed from the southern rim of Lake Okeechobee through the Everglades to Florida Bay and the Gulf of Mexico. Today, the free flowing Everglades have been severed by a system of canals and levees. Once implemented, the Comprehensive Plan will return much of the remaining Everglades to a free flowing system.

**Seepage Management**

Millions of gallons of groundwater are lost each year as seepage. Two features to reduce seepage are shown here - an impervious barrier in the levee and pumps near the levee to redirect water back into the Everglades.

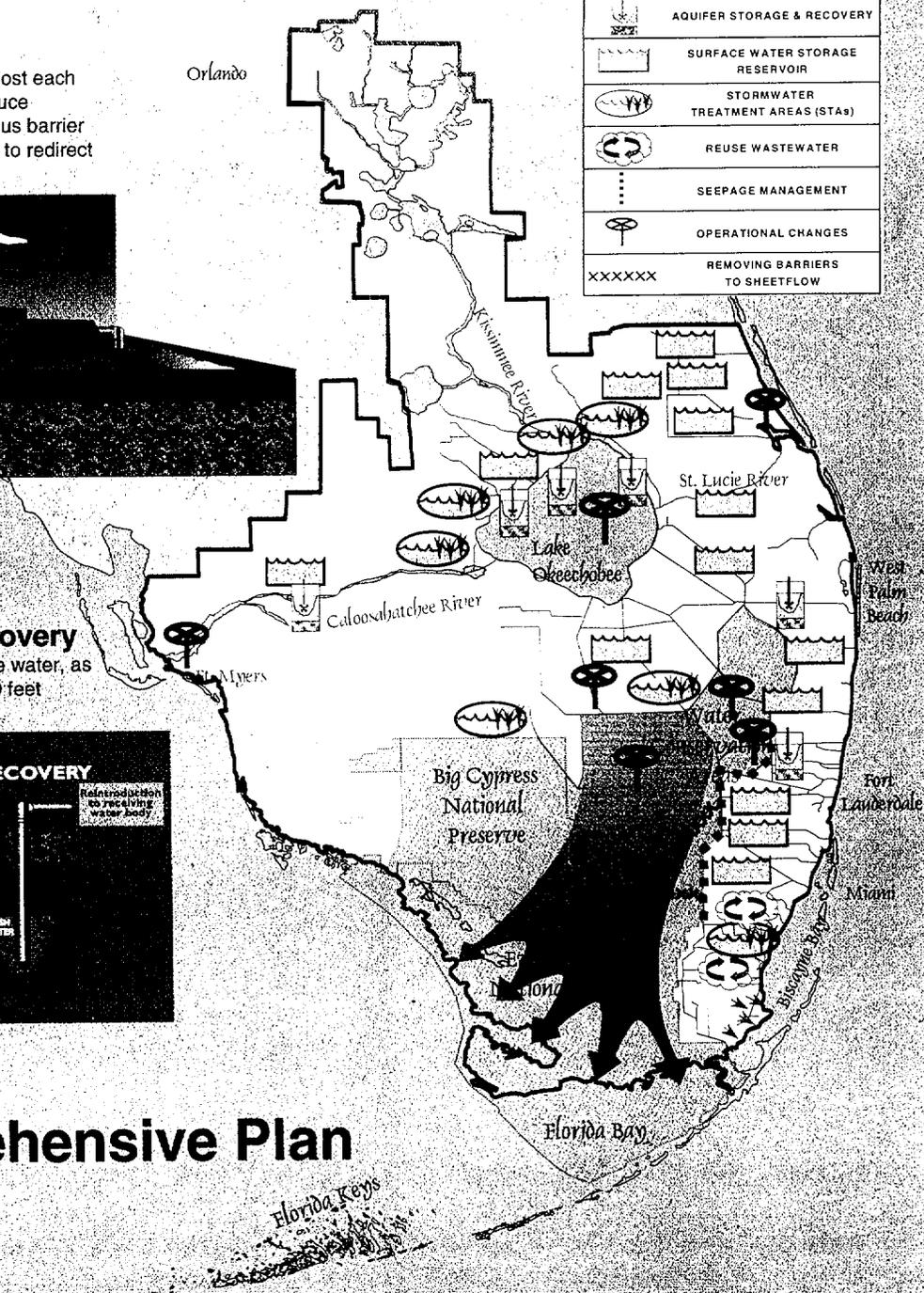
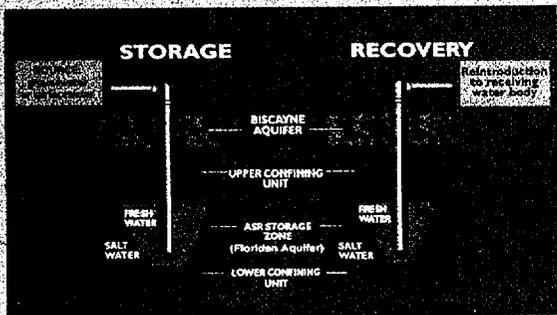


Orlando

	AQUIFER STORAGE & RECOVERY
	SURFACE WATER STORAGE RESERVOIR
	STORMWATER TREATMENT AREAS (STAs)
	REUSE WASTEWATER
	SEEPAGE MANAGEMENT
	OPERATIONAL CHANGES
	REMOVING BARRIERS TO SHEETFLOW

**Aquifer Storage and Recovery**

More than 300 wells will be built to store water, as much as 1.6 billion gallons a day, 1,000 feet underground in the Floridan aquifer.



**The Comprehensive Plan**