



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

Ref: CR-3 ITS Appendix B

April 12, 2001
3F0401-10

Document Control Desk
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Subject: Report Required by Environmental Protection Plan

Dear Sir:

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), and the Crystal River Energy Complex completed an Endangered Species Action Section 7 formal consultation process in 1999. The Biological Opinion issued by the NMFS as a result of this consultation includes terms and conditions that require submittal of written reports to NMFS for sea turtle mortalities occurring at the Crystal River Energy Complex (CREC).

The Crystal River Unit 3 (CR-3) Environmental Protection Plan (EPP), Appendix B of the CR-3 Operating License, establishes reporting requirements related to environmental conditions. Section 4.1, "Significant Environmental Events," requires that copies of reports submitted to other Federal, State, or local agencies shall be provided to the NRC.

In accordance with the above requirements, a report documenting a sea turtle mortality at Crystal River Units 1 and 2 has been submitted to NMFS. Units 1 and 2 are coal fired plants on the CREC. A copy of this report is attached.

If you have any questions regarding this submittal, please contact Mr. Sid Powell, Supervisor, Licensing and Regulatory Programs at (352) 563-4883.

Sincerely,

Sherry L. Bernhoft
Manager Regulatory Affairs

SLB/jal

Attachment

xc: Regional Administrator, Region II
Senior Resident Inspector
NRR Project Manager

COO1



Florida Power
A Progress Energy Company

Mike Olive
Site Manager
Fossil Generation

April 10, 2001

U.S. National Marine Fisheries Service
Southeast Regional Office
Attn: Assistant Regional Administrator
Protected Resource Division
9721 Executive Center Drive, Suite 102
St. Petersburg, FL 33707

Re: Sea Turtle Report

Dear Sir:

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), and the Crystal River Energy Complex completed an Endangered Species Act Section 7 formal consultation process in 1999. The Biological Opinion issued by the NMFS included terms and conditions that require that a written report be submitted for sea turtle mortalities encountered at the Crystal River Energy Complex.

On March 18, 2001, a small sea turtle was discovered in the rotating screen wash sump area of Crystal River Units 1 and 2. Units 1 and 2 are coal fired plants on the Crystal River Energy Complex. Immediately upon discovery, resuscitation techniques were implemented in an attempt to revive the sea turtle. When resuscitation attempts proved unsuccessful, the sea turtle was taken to the Crystal River Mariculture Center for evaluation by biological staff.

The sea turtle was identified as a juvenile Kemp's ridley. An exterior anatomical examination of the sea turtle revealed no evidence of injury or other severe trauma. With a straight carapace length of 21.8 cm, the sea turtle was smaller than any other turtle seen at the Crystal River Energy Complex during 2001. The sea turtle was small enough that its dorsal to ventral size allowed it to slip sideways between the 3 7/8 inch fixed trash rack openings. The sea turtle entered the intake bay behind the bar racks and was caught by the rotating screens downstream of the trash bar racks.

The sea turtle carcass was transported to the Florida Marine Research Institute for future necropsy and evaluation. The circumstances associated with the death of the turtle were discussed with Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission sea turtle researchers. In the absence of any obvious injury or disease, we concluded that the mortality was causally related.

If you have any questions regarding this submittal, please contact Ms. Cindy Wilkinson, Environmental and Regulatory Specialist at (352) 563-4396.

Mike Olive
Site Manager, Fossil Generation

xc: Records Management
File

15760 W. Power Line Street
Crystal River, FL 34428

352-563-2943