



Crystal River Nuclear Plant  
Docket No. 50-302  
Operating License No. DPR-72

May 7, 2008  
3F0508-10

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

Subject: Crystal River Unit 3 – Sea Turtle Mortality Report

Dear Sir:

Florida Power Corporation (FPC), doing business as Progress Energy Florida, Inc., hereby provides a copy to the NRC of a sea turtle mortality report that was submitted to the U. S. National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). The report to the NMFS is required by NMFS's Crystal River – Unit 3 (CR-3) Biological Opinion, dated August 8, 2002, Terms and Conditions, Item 2. Reporting to the NRC is required by the CR-3 Operating License, Appendix B – Part II, Environmental Protection Plan (Non-Radiological) Technical Specifications, Section 4.0, Environmental Conditions, Item 4.1, Significant Environmental Events.

This letter establishes no new regulatory commitments.

If you have any questions regarding this submittal, please contact Mr. Lee Hughes, Superintendent, Environmental and Chemistry at (352) 563-4715.

Sincerely,

Dennis W. Herrin  
Acting Supervisor, Licensing & Regulatory Programs  
Crystal River Nuclear Plant

DWH/ff

Attachment

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

IE23

MR



May 7, 2008  
LRP08-0018

U.S. National Marine Fisheries Service  
South East Regional Office  
Attn: Assistant Regional Administrator  
Protected Resources Division  
263 13th Avenue, South  
Saint Petersburg, Florida 33701

Subject: Crystal River Unit 3 – Sea Turtle Mortality Report

Dear Sir:

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and the Crystal River Energy Complex (CREC) completed an Endangered Species Act Section 7 formal consultation process. In the Biological Opinion, issued August 8, 2002 by the NMFS, terms and conditions were included which required that if any listed species are apparently injured or killed in the CREC intake canal or the Crystal River Unit 3 (CR-3) bar racks, a report summarizing the incident must be provided to the NMFS within 30 days of the incident.

On April 18, 2008, a Green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) was recovered from the CR-3 intake bar racks. The Green turtle, weighing 12.7 lbs. exhibited no visible signs of trauma. A necropsy was performed to assist in determining the cause of death.

The necropsy concluded that the turtle had a number of tumors and parasites. The very poor nutritional condition of the turtle indicates that it was debilitated prior to entering the CREC. The presence of intrapulmonary fluid, circumstances of carcass recovery, and postmortem condition support drowning as the ultimate cause of death. Therefore, the determination is that the death is causally related to CR-3 operations.

Currently, this is the only causally related mortality for CR-3 in 2008.

Progress Energy continues to implement the reasonable and prudent measures described in the current incidental take statement to minimize impacts on sea turtles from facility operations.

If you have any questions regarding this submittal, please contact Mr. Lee Hughes, Superintendent, Environmental and Chemistry at (352) 563-4715.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dennis W. Herrin', written in a cursive style.

Dennis W. Herrin  
Acting Supervisor, Licensing & Regulatory Programs  
Crystal River Nuclear Plant

DWH/ff

xc: NOAA