



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

August 6, 2008
3F0808-04

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,

Dan Westcott
Supervisor, Licensing & Regulatory Programs
Crystal River Nuclear Plant

DRW/ff

Attachment

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



August 6, 2008
LRP08-0030

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 July 8, 2008, a Loggerhead turtle (*Caretta caretta*) was recovered from the CR-3 intake bar racks. The Loggerhead turtle exhibited evidence of significant chronic pre-existing illness as indicated by severe emaciation. A necropsy was performed to assist in determining the cause of death.

The necropsy concluded that the turtle had a large number of parasites and exhibited evidence of a poor nutritional status. The circumstances of carcass discovery and the presence of abundant fluid in the lungs and airways support drowning as the most likely cause of death. The excellent postmortem condition indicates that the turtle was recovered soon after death. Therefore, the determination is that the death is causally related to CR-3 plant operations.

This is the second causally related turtle mortality for CR-3 due to CR-3 plant operations 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 'D Westcott'.

Dan Westcott
Supervisor, Licensing & Regulatory Programs
Crystal River Nuclear Plant

DRW/ff

xc: NOAA