

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 4**



**Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960**

April 13, 2009

Colonel Paul Grosskruger
District Commander
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Jacksonville District
Attention: Mr. Gordon A. Hambrick
1002 West 23rd Street, Suite 350
Panama City, Florida 32405-3648

Subject: Progress Energy Florida; SAJ-2008-490 (IP-GAH)

Dear Colonel Grosskruger:

This letter serves as the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA), request for an extension to the 30-day comment period for the above referenced public notice dated March 16, 2009, for authorization to impact various waters of the United States, including wetlands, located within Central Florida. The proposed project includes the construction of the Levy Nuclear Plant (LNP) electrical generation facility, and various associated integral project components including: electrical transmission lines and substations; access roads; a barge slip at the Cross Florida Barge Canal; cooling tower make-up water pipeline with an intake structure; and water pipelines with discharge at the Crystal River Energy Complex. Approximately 765 acres of wetlands or other surface waters consisting of 355 acres for the transmission line right-of-ways, 54 acres for the railroad right-of-way, 41 acres for the blowdown pipelines, and 1.1 acres for the connection of the barge slip/boat ramp access to the Cross Florida Barge Canal. The project is located in the following counties: Levy, Citrus, Marion, Sumter, lake Hernando, Pinellas, Hillsborough, and Polk Counties.

This request for an extension is in accordance with the terms of the 1992 Section 404(q) Memorandum of Agreement between the Department of the Army and EPA. EPA requests an extension of 30 days to the current 30-day comment period, to the close of business May 15, 2009. This extension will enable EPA to adequately review all of the relevant information and provide more substantive comments for the proposed project. EPA requests a copy of the mitigation plan once it is complete.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this proposed project. If you have any questions regarding EPA's extension request, please contact Cecelia Harper of my staff at harper.cecelia@epa.gov or (404) 562-9418.

Sincerely,

Jennifer S. Derby
Chief
Wetlands and Marine Regulatory Section

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS
PANAMA CITY REGULATORY OFFICE
1002 WEST 23rd STREET, SUITE 350
PANAMA CITY, FLORIDA 32405

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

Regulatory Division
North Permits Branch
Panama City Regulatory Office
SAJ-2008-00490(IP-GAH)

April 13, 2009

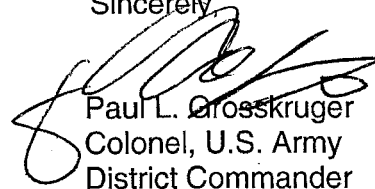
Ms. Jennifer S. Derby
Chief, Wetlands and Marine Regulatory Section
United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4
Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960

Dear Ms. Derby:

This is in reference to your letter of April 13, 2009, requesting a 30-day extension to the public notice period for Department of the Army application SAJ-2008-00490 (IP-GAH) submitted by Progress Energy Florida. Your letter was received in this office on March 30, 2009.

Your request for additional review time is hereby approved and the comment period is extended until May 15, 2009.

Sincerely,


Paul L. Grosskruger
Colonel, U.S. Army
District Commander