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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Southeast Regional Office
263 13th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701-5055
(727) 824-5317; FAX 824-5300
<http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov>

March 23, 2009 F/SER46:MS

Colonel Paul L. Grosskruger, District Engineer
Panama City Regulatory Office
Jacksonville District, Corps of Engineers
1002 West 23rd Street, Suite 350
Panama City, Florida 32405-3648

Dear Colonel Grosskruger:

This letter is in reference to the Jacksonville District's public notice dated March 16, 2009, regarding Permit Application Number SAJ-2008-490 (IP-GAH). The applicant, Progress Energy Florida, proposes to construct the Levy Nuclear Plant (LNP) electrical generation facility and associated integral project components, including electrical transmission lines and substations; access roads; a vessel slip in the Cross Florida Barge Canal; and cooling water intake and discharge structures in the Gulf of Mexico in Levy County, Florida.

Adverse impacts to essential fish habitat and associated fishery resources located downstream of the LNP cooling water intake and discharge structures could occur as a result of the proposed action. NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service is coordinating an inspection of the LNP's cooling water intake and discharge sites with various state and federal natural resource agencies to identify potential impacts to essential fish habitat. The timing of our interagency site inspection will prevent our assessment from being completed within the public notice comment period.

Therefore, in accordance with Part II (4) of the 1992 Memorandum of Agreement between the Departments of the Army and Commerce, we request a time extension of 30 days to allow our review and comment on this project. With your concurrence, NMFS' comments will be provided to the Jacksonville District no later than May 15, 2009. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Miles M. Croom
Assistant Regional Administrator
Habitat Conservation Division

cc:
F/SER4
F/SER46





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 Section
Panama City Regulatory Office
SAJ-2007-4017(IP-GAH)

April 7, 2009

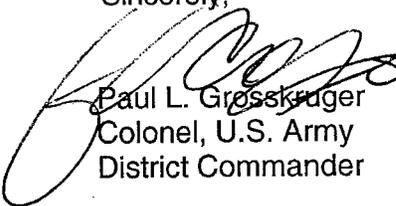
Mr. Miles M. Croom
Assistant Regional Administrator
Habitat Conservation Division
National Marine Fisheries Service
Southeast Regional Office
263 13th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701-5055

Dear Mr. Croom:

This is in reference to your letter of March 23, 2009, requesting a 30-day extension to the public notice period for Department of the Army application SAJ-2008-490 (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