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**NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

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Public Meeting: Afternoon Session

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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PUBLIC MEETING

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DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR THE  
LEVY NUCLEAR PLANT UNITS 1 AND 2  
COMBINED LICENSE APPLICATION

AFTERNOON SESSION

+ + + + +

Thursday

September 23, 2010

+ + + + +

The meeting convened at The Plantation Inn, 9301  
West Fort Island Trail, Crystal River, Florida, at  
1:30 p.m.

BEFORE:

FRANCIS "CHIP" CAMERON, Facilitator

ROBERT SCHAAF, Presenter

GORDON "DON" HAMBRICK, Presenter

DOUGLAS BRUNER, Presenter

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I N D E XAGENDAPAGE

Welcome and Introductory Statements	4
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Statements	16
Overview of NRC Environmental Review Process	22
Public Questions	36
Public Comments	56
Closing Statements	109

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P R O C E E D I N G S

1:39 P.M.

MR. CAMERON: Good afternoon, everyone, and welcome to the public meeting today. My name is Chip Cameron and it's a pleasure to serve as your wired facilitator today. And in that role I'm going to try to help you all to have a productive meeting this afternoon.

And, our topic today is the environmental review that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, which we're going to be referring to as the NRC, and the Army Corps of Engineers. We're going to be talking about the environmental review that the two agencies have done on the license application that the NRC received from Progress Energy Florida to build and construct new reactors at a site here in Levy County. And that environmental review is documented in something called a Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

And I just wanted to talk a couple minutes about some meeting process issues before we get into the substance of today's discussions, and that way you'll know what to expect in the meeting. And, I'd like to tell you about the format for the meeting.

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1 Secondly, some simple ground rules that we're going to  
2 try to follow. And thirdly, I'd like to introduce the  
3 NRC and the Army Corps of Engineers staff that will be  
4 talking to you today.

5 In terms of the format for the meeting,  
6 it's basically a two-part meeting. The first part is  
7 to give all of you some information on the  
8 environmental review process and also what some of the  
9 findings are in the Draft Environmental Impact  
10 Statement. And we'll have some brief presentations on  
11 that. And after those presentations, we'll have some  
12 time to go out to you for questions on process and  
13 some of the things that you've heard in the  
14 presentation.

15 Before we go to the second part of the  
16 meeting, and that part is the basic reason that we're  
17 here today to talk with you, is, we want to listen to  
18 your comments, your concerns, your recommendations on  
19 these environmental review issues. And if you wanted  
20 to talk during that part of the meeting, if you could  
21 please fill out one of these yellow cards, if you  
22 haven't already. And that just allows us to keep  
23 track of who wants to speak and how many people want  
24 to speak.

25 And during that part of the meeting we'll

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1 ask you, unless you're unable to, to come up here to  
2 the podium and talk to everybody and give your  
3 comments.

4 Now, the NRC staff is also going to tell  
5 you that they're asking for written comments also on  
6 these environmental review issues. And they'll tell  
7 you the process for how to submit those and when to  
8 submit those. But I just want to emphasize that  
9 anything that you say here today, your oral comments,  
10 they'll have the same weight as written comments. And  
11 if you want to follow-up on something you said today,  
12 you're certainly free to expand on that in a written  
13 comment.

14 And in terms of ground rules for today's  
15 meeting, they are very simple, and it's just to allow  
16 us to have an efficient and effective meeting. And  
17 the first one is I would just ask you to hold all of  
18 your questions until all of the NRC and Corps of  
19 Engineers' presentations are done, so that we can give  
20 you the complete picture before we go for questions.

21 When we do for questions, just signal me.

22 And usually we have a cordless mic and this one has a  
23 bunch of cords to it, so I may not be able to get out  
24 to you. So, I'm going to try to walk as much as I can  
25 with this cord so that you don't have to come up here,

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1 but I might have to ask you to come up here if you  
2 have a question. And then we'll try to answer your  
3 questions.

4 And we really want to make sure that the  
5 process is clear to you and that's what we're looking  
6 for questions on and we'll also try to answer other  
7 questions. But if we have to go into a lot of detail,  
8 we're going to have to do that after the meeting and  
9 the NRC staff will, or the Corps of Engineers will be  
10 glad to talk to you at that time. So, we'll go  
11 through the questions.

12 And then the second ground rule is, that I  
13 would ask that only one person at a time speak. And  
14 the most important reason for that is so that we can  
15 give our full attention to whomever has the podium or  
16 during the questions, this microphone.

17 And also, we want to make sure that we get  
18 a clean transcript done. Gretchen Schultz is our  
19 genius court reporter over here. And she's taking a  
20 transcript, and if only one person is speaking at a  
21 time she'll know who's talking and she'll clearly  
22 identify that on the transcript. That transcript is  
23 going to be your record of the meeting. It's  
24 available to you and it's going to be the NRC's record  
25 of the meeting.

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1           The third ground rule is, I would just ask  
2           you to try to be brief in your comments, so that we  
3           can get to everybody who wants to talk today.  
4           Usually, we set a three to five minute guideline on  
5           comments, but we don't have a whole lot of speakers  
6           today, so we have some flexibility. But I'm going to  
7           ask you to try to hold it to five and if it's getting  
8           into the six to seven minute range, I'm going to have  
9           to ask you to sum up for us. And I apologize in  
10          advance if I have to ask you to stop before you're  
11          finished, because I know that you spend a lot of time  
12          preparing your comments for these meetings. Luckily,  
13          you can expand on it with a written comment if you  
14          would like to do that.

15                 And, during that comment portion of the  
16          meeting, the NRC, Corps of Engineers staff, they're  
17          here to listen carefully to what you have to say. But  
18          they're not going to be responding to things that you  
19          say from the podium or to questions that you might ask  
20          from the podium. What they are going to do is they're  
21          going to carefully consider and document those  
22          comments and questions when they prepare the Final  
23          Environmental Impact Statement. And also, they're  
24          going to note who's saying what from the podium. And  
25          don't be surprised if after the meeting they come up

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1 and just ask you some more questions about that and  
2 try to give you some explanation on that particular  
3 issue.

4 And the final ground rule is just  
5 courtesy, and this applies to everybody, NRC, all of  
6 us. You may hear opinions today that differ from the  
7 opinions that you have, and I would just ask you to  
8 respect the person who is giving that opinion.

9 And now I'm going to introduce the  
10 speakers and we can get started with the program.  
11 We're going to start off with Bob Schaaf. Where's  
12 Bob? There's Bob Schaaf. And Bob is the Chief of the  
13 Environmental Review Branch in the Division of Site  
14 and Environmental Review. That's in the Office of New  
15 Reactors at NRC, and his branch is managing the  
16 environmental review on this Progress Energy  
17 application.

18 Bob's been with the Agency for  
19 approximately 20 years in a number of positions,  
20 environmental review positions, both on new reactors  
21 and the renewal of existing operating reactors. He  
22 also was a Project Manager for operating reactors and  
23 before that, before he came to the NRC, he was with  
24 the Charleston Naval Shipyard, where they were doing  
25 nuclear submarine overhauls. He has a Mechanical

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1 Engineering Degree from Georgia Tech.

2 Then we're going to go to the Corps of  
3 Engineers, and Bob's going to tell you a little bit  
4 about the NRC and our responsibilities. We're going  
5 to go to the Corps of Engineers to Don Hambrick, who's  
6 right here. And he's going to talk about what the  
7 Corps of Engineers' responsibilities are on this  
8 license application. And he's the Project Manager for  
9 the Corps of Engineers evaluation on the license  
10 application.

11 He's been a Senior Manager, Project  
12 Manager with the Corps of Engineers for a number of  
13 years, I think 20, 20 plus --

14 MR. HAMBRICK: I've been with the Corps  
15 for 24 years.

16 MR. CAMERON: Twenty-four years. And he's  
17 in the Permit Section of the Corps' Jacksonville  
18 District. Don is a biologist. He has a Bachelor's  
19 Degree in Chemistry and Biology from the University of  
20 Miami, and he has a Master's of Science Degree from  
21 Louisiana State University.

22 Then we're going to go to Doug Bruner.  
23 And Doug is right over here. And he's the Project  
24 Manager for the NRC on the environmental review. And  
25 he's really going to talk about the substance of

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1 what's in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and  
2 also the Environmental Review Process.

3 He's been with the NRC for three years,  
4 and before that he was with the Army Corps of  
5 Engineers as the Geologist and Environmental  
6 Specialist. And interestingly enough, in his Corps of  
7 Engineers responsibilities, he has put time in in Iraq  
8 in the Restore Iraqi Electricity Program and also in  
9 Afghanistan on various construction projects for the  
10 Afghanistani National Police Force, I believe. He has  
11 a Bachelor's in Geology from the University of  
12 Southern Maine and a Master's in Engineering Geology  
13 from Purdue.

14 And before they get started, I just want  
15 to make sure that you understand one thing on the  
16 relationship between the NRC and the Corps of  
17 Engineers. There's two federal agency decisions  
18 involved here; one is the NRC on whether to grant the  
19 license to own and operate these plants, and the  
20 second one is with the Corps of Engineers on whether  
21 to grant the permits that they grant. But there's two  
22 agency decisions, but there's only one Environmental  
23 Impact Statement that supports each agency's decision.

24 The NRC is the lead agency because it is  
25 addressing the broader issue of whether to grant the

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1 license. The Corps of Engineers is a cooperating  
2 agency on the grant, if there are permits. Each  
3 agency has a public participation process. This  
4 traditional NRC public meeting is part of our process,  
5 and the Corps of Engineers usually holds what they  
6 call a "public hearing" on their permit application.  
7 This meeting is going to satisfy their public hearing  
8 requirement. And I just wanted to make sure that was  
9 clear to everybody and address that further if we need  
10 to.

11 And, I'm going to turn it over to Bob, Bob  
12 Schaaf.

13 MR. SCHAAF: Thanks Chip. First, I would  
14 like to thank everyone for your patience for the few  
15 extra minutes it took us to work out the technical  
16 difficulties. I appreciate that.

17 Once again, as Chip said, my name is Bob  
18 Schaaf. I'm the Chief of the Environmental Review  
19 Branch that's responsible for reviewing environmental  
20 impacts of construction and operation of proposed new  
21 nuclear power plants.

22 I would like to welcome everyone today to  
23 our meeting on Progress Energy's application to  
24 construct and operate two new nuclear units at the  
25 Levy County site.

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1 I'd also like to take a moment to thank  
2 you all for coming out, taking time out of your day to  
3 share your thoughts with us and to hear the summary of  
4 our review. Public involvement is an important part  
5 of our review process, so we appreciate you taking the  
6 time.

7 I'll take just a few minutes to go over  
8 the purposes of today's meeting. I'll begin with a  
9 short description of the mission of the Nuclear  
10 Regulatory Commission. And then as Chip said, Don  
11 from the Corps of Engineers, will briefly explain the  
12 Corps' role in the process.

13 As Chip mentioned and as Don will  
14 describe, today's meeting is considered to be part of  
15 the Corps' public hearing for their permit application  
16 review process. I would note that this Corps hearing  
17 is distinguished from the NRC's formal licensing  
18 hearing process. Today's meeting is not a part of  
19 that formal hearing process for the NRC; rather, we're  
20 here to gather comments for consideration in  
21 finalizing our environmental impact assessment.

22 Following these introductory remarks, Doug  
23 Bruner, the Project Manager for the environmental  
24 review of the application, will describe the review  
25 process, preliminary findings, and ways that public

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1 comments may be provided on the Environmental Impact  
2 Statement.

3 Doug will briefly describe the review  
4 process, including the involvement of the Corps, as a  
5 cooperating in a review. He will discuss the schedule  
6 for completing the rest of our review, including the  
7 process for receiving and addressing your comments on  
8 the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

9 He will provide an overview of the  
10 anticipated environmental impacts of building and  
11 operating the proposed nuclear plants, if the NRC  
12 ultimately decides to grant Progress Energy's request  
13 for a combined license.

14 He will also discuss the NRC staff's  
15 preliminary recommendation on that licensing decision,  
16 based on the draft results of our environmental  
17 review.

18 Doug will conclude his presentation by  
19 explaining the many ways in which you may provide  
20 comments to the NRC and the Corps of Engineers for  
21 evaluating our review.

22 Most importantly, we're here today to  
23 listen to you and collect your comments on the Draft  
24 Environmental Impact Statement. After our  
25 presentations, you will have an opportunity to provide

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1 comments on our review. As was mentioned earlier, and  
2 as we took a few extra minutes to make sure we got it  
3 straightened out, the meeting is being transcribed so  
4 that we may accurately capture your comments so that  
5 we can respond to them.

6 Now I'd like to provide just a brief  
7 background on the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The  
8 NRC was created by Congress in 1974 and began  
9 operations at the beginning of 1975 to provide  
10 independent oversight of civilian uses of nuclear  
11 materials, including the generation of electricity in  
12 nuclear power plants. Our mission is to protect  
13 public health and safety, promote common defense and  
14 security, and protect the environment.

15 The NRC is not a proponent of any project.  
16 We do not propose, build, or operate nuclear  
17 facilities.

18 In this case, Progress Energy has proposed  
19 to construct and operate two new nuclear units on the  
20 Levy County site. The NRC's responsibility is to  
21 ensure that this facility can be constructed and  
22 operated safely and securely and in a manner that  
23 protects the environment from radioactive materials.  
24 We must make those determinations before we decide  
25 whether to issue the requested licenses.

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1           That concludes my introductory remarks.  
2       Again, I would like to express my thanks to you for  
3       coming out this afternoon and sharing your thoughts  
4       with us. I look forward to hearing your comments.

5           MR. HAMBRICK: Good afternoon and welcome.

6       As Chip said, my name is Don Hambrick. I am a Senior  
7       Project Manager with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
8       Jacksonville District. I work for the Regulatory  
9       Division out of Jacksonville. I work for,  
10      specifically, the North Permits Branch, which covers  
11      the northern two-thirds of the State of Florida, plus  
12      Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. We're divided up  
13      into four sections and I work from the Panama City  
14      office.

15           The Corps of Engineers Jacksonville  
16      District, as the co-sponsor with the NRC of this  
17      public hearing, welcomes you and encourages your  
18      participation by the submittal of your written and/or  
19      spoken comments during this public hearing, or  
20      submittal or written comments that you may send  
21      directly to the NRC, and then we will receive those as  
22      well from the NRC.

23           Review of your comments are an important  
24      part of the Corps' evaluation of the proposed  
25      construction of Progress Energy Florida's Levy Nuclear

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1 Plants Units 1 and 2, which for us includes the  
2 upgrade or construction of approximately 180 miles of  
3 electrical transmission lines.

4 Now, a lot of people wonder, why is the  
5 Corps of Engineers involved in this sort of thing?  
6 And the reason is, of course, is Federal Statutes.

7 The Corps of Engineers is the Federal  
8 agency responsible for administering Section 404 of  
9 the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and  
10 Harbors Act of 1899. Under the Clean Water Act, the  
11 Corps regulates the discharge of dredge and fill  
12 material into all jurisdictional waters of the United  
13 States, including wetlands.

14 Under Section 10, we regulate navigable  
15 waters, but only the dredging or construction of  
16 structures in, over, or under navigable waters,  
17 including wetlands located within those navigable  
18 waters.

19 Corps permit decisions are Federal actions  
20 and must comply with the National Environmental Policy  
21 Act, or NEPA.

22 Proposed projects also on our program must  
23 comply when they involve the discharge of dredged or  
24 fill materials with the Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines,  
25 which set the criteria as to whether or not we can

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1 permit those discharges.

2 We also have what we call a public  
3 interest review, where we're charged with determining  
4 whether the project -- to determine that the project  
5 is or is not contrary to the public interest. And the  
6 test there is not that the project is in the public  
7 interest, but that it is not contrary to the public  
8 interest.

9 The Corps -- and then the next slide,  
10 please. The Corps, pursuant to its responsibilities  
11 under NEPA, is a cooperating agency with NRC, which is  
12 the lead agency. Shall I stop here and --

13 REPORTER: It's -- they have to turn the  
14 volume down a little bit.

15 (Volume is adjusted.)

16 MR. HAMBRICK: So, the Corps, according to  
17 its responsibilities under NEPA, is a cooperating  
18 agency with the NRC, which is the lead agency, in the  
19 development of this draft EIS and the eventual filing  
20 of the EIS for the proposed project.

21 Concurrent with this review with the review of  
22 the comments that will be received in response to the  
23 DEIS and during development of the final EIS, the  
24 Corps will continue its evaluation of the proposed  
25 project under the Statutes and regulations which

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1 govern the Corps' regulatory program.

2 Under our regulations, the Corps is  
3 neither proponent nor opponent of any project  
4 undergoing our regulatory review. The Corps has not  
5 made a decision as to whether or not to issue a permit  
6 for this project. The solicitation or review of the  
7 comments provided in response to the DEIS are part of  
8 our evaluation of this project. A final decision by  
9 the Corps regarding whether or not a Department of the  
10 Army permit will be issued will not occur until at  
11 least 30 days after the Final EIS is issued. And the  
12 next slide.

13 This slide just summarizes the impacts to  
14 waters of the United States, which is the focus of our  
15 regulatory program.

16 Now for the actual plant site, which would  
17 include the nuclear site, the reactor site, and all  
18 the ancillary facilities, such as administration  
19 buildings, switch yard roads, et cetera, approximately  
20 an estimated 372 acres of wetlands would be impacted.

21 At this point, as far as transmission  
22 lines, about 319 acres of wetlands could be impacted.

23 The blowdown pipelines, which would carry  
24 the coolant -- which would discharge the coolant water  
25 13 miles over at the Crystal River Energy Complex, at

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1 this point, would impact about 30 acres of wetlands.

2 And then, approximately 1.1 acres of  
3 wetlands and open waters would be impacted at the  
4 Cross Florida Barge Canal, for the construction of a  
5 barge slip and boat ramp. And that facility is to  
6 allow a method to bring to the site the large  
7 components of the reactor.

8 There's also structures in and out of the  
9 waters themselves that require a permit from us, and  
10 that would include the cooling water intake structure  
11 at the Cross Florida Barge Canal and the cooling water  
12 discharge structure at the Crystal River Energy  
13 Complex. Okay. Next slide, please.

14 Okay. Under our regulations, the Corps  
15 will not provide any responses during the hearing to  
16 comments. For us a hearing is a very formal process.  
17 All oral testimony will be recorded and a transcript  
18 prepared by the NRC. Comments may also be submitted  
19 in writing through the end of the DEIS comment period  
20 to the NRC, and that's October 27th of this year.

21 All received comments will become part of  
22 the official record for this project and will be  
23 addressed either in the Final EIS, or separately by  
24 the Corps in its combined record of decision and  
25 statement of findings.

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1           Now, on this slide, if you have -- what I  
2           have on the third bullet is our project application  
3           number, and that's that SAJ-2008-00490(IP), that  
4           stands for Individual Permit, with my initials. I  
5           also have my contact information there, my telephone  
6           number and e-mail address.

7           I can be contacted to answer questions, as  
8           far as what the Corps' process and review process is  
9           about. We really don't get into the discussion of the  
10          project itself because, again, this is a formal  
11          process. We'll get your comments, review that, and go  
12          from there.

13          So, overall, if you do have any questions  
14          in regard to the Corps' permitting process and EIS  
15          process, I'll be available after the meeting and be  
16          happy to answer those questions.

17          I would like to offer my thanks to the NRC  
18          and to the consultants with the Pacific National --  
19          Northwest National Laboratory and Information Systems  
20          Laboratory. They've done a lot of hard work on this  
21          DEIS, for setting up the workshops and the public  
22          meeting hearing. And then, as well, as the work  
23          that's going to occur before the Final EIS. Thank  
24          you.

25          MR. CAMERON: And now we're going to hear

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1 from Doug Bruner.

2 MR. BRUNER: Thank you, Don, Chip. Again,  
3 my name is Doug Bruner. I am the Environmental  
4 Project Manager with the NRC for the Levy project. I  
5 would like to thank everybody for coming out this  
6 afternoon and giving us your feedback on the Draft  
7 Environmental Impact Statement.

8 It's interesting how quickly time passes.  
9 We were here almost two years ago seeking your input  
10 for the Environmental Impact Statement. And this  
11 afternoon I would like to provide a brief overview of  
12 the environmental review process, as well as the  
13 environmental review.

14 In July 2008, Progress Energy submitted an  
15 application to the NRC for combined licenses for the  
16 Levy project. The combined licenses, if granted,  
17 would be authorization to construct and operate two  
18 new nuclear units on the Levy site.

19 For the Levy combined application -- or  
20 combined license application, the NRC is conducting  
21 two reviews; a safety review and an environmental  
22 review. This afternoon I will be discussing the  
23 environmental review.

24 The product of environmental review is an  
25 Environmental Impact Statement. It's also called an

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1 EIS. The staff began its review of Progress Energy's  
2 application for combined licenses for the Levy project  
3 in October of 2008, which included review of the  
4 applicant's environmental report that was included  
5 with the application.

6 The staff has conducted site audits,  
7 visits to alternative sites, and interacted with local  
8 officials, and State and federal agencies, as well as  
9 Native American tribes.

10 The staff gathered information through  
11 scoping to help determine the issues that should be  
12 considered for the environmental review. We also  
13 requested additional information from Progress Energy.

14 All of this information was used to  
15 prepare the Draft Environmental Impact Statement,  
16 which was published this past August, last month.

17 As a member of the team, the Corps has  
18 been on site visits and has actively participated in  
19 agency interactions and technical reviews in  
20 developing the Environmental Impact Statement. Next  
21 slide, please. We need to back up.

22 This slide is an overview of the NRC's  
23 environmental review process. The step-wise approach  
24 is how NRC meets its responsibilities under the  
25 National Environmental Policy Act. We are currently

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1 on the fourth bubble, which is the common period stage  
2 for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

3 Previously, the NRC and Corps were seeking  
4 your input for the Environmental Impact Statement  
5 during the scoping period. And your comments were  
6 presented in a Scoping Summary Report that was issued  
7 in May of 2009. It is also included as Appendix D to  
8 the draft DEIS for those comments that were within  
9 scope of the environmental review.

10 To assist us in our review, the NRC and  
11 Corps of Engineers are currently seeking public input  
12 on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The 75-  
13 day comment period for the Draft EIS began on August  
14 13 and will end on -- it will remain open until  
15 October 27th.

16 Once the comment period is over, the staff  
17 will start processing all of the comments that were  
18 received on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.  
19 That includes anything that you would like to share  
20 with us this afternoon.

21 Based on the comments we receive, we will  
22 adjust the analyses as needed and finalize the  
23 Environmental Impact Statement.

24 The target date for the Final  
25 Environmental Impact Statement is July of 2011. The

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1 comments and responses on the Draft Environmental  
2 Impact Statement will be included as an Appendix to  
3 the Final Environmental Impact Statement. Next slide,  
4 please.

5 To prepare the Environmental Impact  
6 Statement we have assembled a team with backgrounds in  
7 the necessary scientific and technical disciplines.  
8 The NRC has contracted with Pacific Northwest National  
9 Labs, as well as Information Systems Laboratories, to  
10 assist us in preparing the Environmental Impact  
11 Statement.

12 The NRC team, which includes the PNNL and  
13 ISL contractors, is comprised of a wide range of  
14 experts knowledgeable with environmental issues and  
15 nuclear power plants.

16 As mentioned before, the Corps also  
17 provided technical expertise in developing the  
18 Environmental Impact Statement. This slide shows most  
19 of the resource areas that were considered in the, the  
20 Environmental Impact Statement, and many of these  
21 staff experts are here with us this afternoon to  
22 receive your comments.

23 The NRC would like to provide time for you  
24 to present comments this afternoon and, therefore, I  
25 will be discussing the results of some of these

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1 resource areas depicted here. But before I do that --  
2 next slide, please.

3 This slide depicts how impacts to the  
4 environment are categorized in the Environmental  
5 Impact Statement. The NRC has established three  
6 impact category levels; small, moderate, and large, to  
7 help explain the effects of the project in consistent  
8 terms with each of the resource areas.

9 As mentioned, as the team was developing  
10 its analysis, the team members would ask, is the  
11 effect minor, which would be a small effect. Or does  
12 the effect noticeably alter important attributes of  
13 the resource, which would be a moderate effect. Or  
14 does the effect destabilize important attributes of  
15 the resource, which would be a large effect.

16 So, throughout the Environmental Impact  
17 Statement for each of the technical areas, like the  
18 ones we saw in the previous slide, the team would  
19 development its analysis and then assign a level of  
20 significance of small, moderate or large. Next slide,  
21 please.

22 Now we'll get into a little more detail  
23 about some of the technical areas. First, is water  
24 resources. Our evaluation considered groundwater and  
25 surface water, both the use and quality of these two

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resources.

Groundwater will be used during the building of Units 1 and 2, for controlling dust, mixing concrete, for soil compaction, and other construction uses. Later, during operation of the plant, groundwater will be used for drinking, sanitation, fire protection, and cooling of smaller plant components.

The primary source of water to be used during operation is surface water, which will be used to cool Units 1 and 2. The source for surface water is the Cross Florida Barge Canal, which is directly connected to the Gulf of Mexico.

Water being discharged from the plants will be directed to the existing Crystal River Energy Complex and discharged. Progress Energy will be required to comply with all State and federal permits for groundwater withdrawals and discharges to the Gulf of Mexico.

Therefore, the review team determined that the impacts of building and operation of Units 1 and 2 on the use and quality of groundwater and surface water would be small. Next slide, please.

Next is ecological resources. Our team evaluated the terrestrial impacts on local wildlife

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1 that either live on the Levy site and the surrounding  
2 area or in nearby water bodies. The evaluation  
3 covered many species. Some examples are the  
4 Loggerhead Turtle, the Gulf Sturgeon, as well as Wood  
5 Stork.

6 The NRC staff, along with the Corps, is  
7 consulting with other agencies, such as the Florida  
8 Department of Environmental Protection, the U.S. Fish  
9 and Wildlife Service, and the National Marine Fishery  
10 Service on impacts to ecological resources.

11 The review team concluded that the  
12 terrestrial impacts from building Units 1 and 2 would  
13 be moderate, primarily due to the loss of wetlands  
14 habitat, and small to moderate during operation  
15 because of the range of impacts to wetlands from  
16 groundwater withdrawal.

17 Impacts on the aquatic ecosystem are  
18 considered small for building and operation. Next  
19 slide, please.

20 As part of the NRC staff's analysis, we  
21 evaluated potential doses to workers during  
22 construction, doses to members of the public, and  
23 plant workers during operation, and doses received by  
24 wildlife.

25 The NRC's regulation limit the whole body

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1 dose to a member of the public to around 5 to 10  
2 millirem per year from a nuclear power plant. The EPA  
3 standard is 25 millirem per year for the entire fuel  
4 cycle.

5 Radiation exposure is a very well-studied  
6 health risk. To put the above radiation exposure into  
7 perspective, the average dose to an individual in the  
8 United States from natural background, such as cosmic  
9 radiation, naturally occurring radioactive material in  
10 the soil and building materials is around 300 millirem  
11 per year.

12 The NRC's regulated limit is less than 10  
13 percent of the total of natural background. The  
14 impacts on all three groups: doses to a member of the  
15 public, plant workers and wildlife would be small,  
16 since Progress Energy must continue to comply with  
17 stringent NRC and EPA regulations. Next slide.

18 Socioeconomics and environmental justice,  
19 it's about people. The socioeconomic review  
20 encompasses many things, such as local economy, taxes,  
21 housing, education, traffic and transportation,  
22 population, infrastructure, and community services.

23 The adverse socioeconomic impacts range  
24 from small to moderate for the building phase of Units  
25 1 and 2. The moderate adverse impacts are primarily

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1 in Levy and Marion Counties, due to impacts on public  
2 services and schools. There would be a moderate  
3 impact associated with traffic in Levy County.  
4 Additionally, a moderate, aesthetic impact is expected  
5 from the transmission lines and corridors.

6 On the other hand, there is a beneficial  
7 impact from taxes that range from small to moderate  
8 during construction, and small to large during  
9 operation, particularly in Levy County.

10 The environmental justice review focuses  
11 on low income and minority populations to understand  
12 if they would be unevenly and adversely affected by  
13 the proposed action. During our review, we did  
14 identify several minority and low-income census  
15 blocks, but did not find any evidence of minority or  
16 low-income populations that would be affected  
17 disproportionately by construction and operation of  
18 the new plant.

19 An important part of our environmental  
20 review under the National Environmental Policy Act is  
21 the evaluation of cumulative impacts. In Chapter 7,  
22 the team evaluated the impacts of Units 1 and 2, in  
23 addition to other proposed and existing activities in  
24 the review area, such as the existing Crystal River  
25 Energy Complex, the proposed Tarmac King Road,

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1 Limestone Mine, as well as the expansion of the  
2 Suncoast Parkway.

3 So, as an example, surface water quality.

4 In Chapters 4 and 5, the team determined that the  
5 impacts on surface water quality from the building and  
6 operation of Units 1 and 2 would be small.

7 However, in Chapter 7, when we discussed  
8 cumulative impacts, when those construction and  
9 operation impacts are added to the impacts of other  
10 past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future  
11 development activities, the impact on surface water  
12 quality would be categorized as moderate.

13 Overall, the cumulative adverse impacts  
14 ranged from small to moderate, with the exception of  
15 the generally beneficial impacts from taxes, which  
16 range from small adverse to large beneficial.

17 As part of our review, the team needed to  
18 make a determination on whether or not there is a need  
19 for additional power from the licensee. For proposed  
20 Units 1 and 2, the area evaluated was Progress  
21 Energy's service territory.

22 The Commission has acknowledged the  
23 State's primary role in assessing their need for  
24 power-generating facilities. For this reason, the NRC  
25 staff's review was targeted at determining whether the

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1 Florida Public Service Commission's order was  
2 adequate. They saw the review and that it meets the  
3 four criteria on the second bullet.

4 The staff gives deference to the Florida  
5 Public Services Commission conclusion that the power  
6 produced by the proposed new units would be needed.  
7 You can read more about the need for power in Chapter  
8 8 of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Next  
9 slide, please.

10 Alternatives is often referred to as the  
11 heart of NEPA. In Chapter 9, the staff evaluated  
12 alternative energy sources, alternative sites, and  
13 alternative system designs, as well as a no-action  
14 alternative.

15 In our alternative energy analysis, the  
16 review team evaluated generation of baseload power,  
17 which would be continuously produced 24/7. For  
18 baseload, we examined sources such as coal and natural  
19 gas, and a combination of our energy sources, such as  
20 natural gas, solar, wind, biomass, and additional  
21 conservation and demand side management programs. The  
22 review team determined that none of the feasible  
23 baseload energies would be environmentally preferable.

24 The review team compared the proposed Levy  
25 site to four other alternative sites, including a site

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1 adjacent to the existing Crystal River Energy Complex.  
2 The NRC staff determined that none of the alternative  
3 sites would be environmentally preferable to the Levy  
4 site.

5 And lastly, the review team determined no  
6 alternative cooling system would be environmentally  
7 preferable to the proposed design.

8 In Chapter 10 of the Environmental Impact  
9 Statement, the NRC staff makes a preliminary  
10 recommendation to the Commission. This recommendation  
11 is based on the mostly small environmental impacts,  
12 mitigation measures, and the NRC staff's conclusion  
13 that no alternative site or alternative baseload  
14 energy source would be environmentally preferable.

15 Based on the results of our environmental  
16 review, the preliminary recommendation to the NRC  
17 Commission is that the combined licenses for Levy  
18 Units 1 and 2 be issued. The recommendation is  
19 considered preliminary until we receive your comments  
20 on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

21 The preliminary recommendation is for the  
22 environmental review only. As mentioned earlier in  
23 the presentation, there are two concurrent reviews.  
24 One is the environmental review; the other is the  
25 safety review.

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1           The safety review is ongoing and is  
2 anticipated to be completed in July 2011, with  
3 issuance of the Final Safety Evaluation Report. The  
4 Final Safety Evaluation Report will present the  
5 results of the staff's safety review. Next slide,  
6 please.

7           If you don't already have a copy and want  
8 to review the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, we  
9 have hard copies and CDs available in the lobby or you  
10 can call me to request a copy. My phone number's on  
11 this slide.

12           In addition, there's a toll free number  
13 that you can call; it's 1-800-368-5642, and you can  
14 always -- and again, you can reach me at this  
15 extension. And you can see me after this presentation  
16 and I can give you that number again. You could also  
17 find it online at the website presented on this slide.  
18 Or, you can find them in the reference sections of the  
19 following libraries listed on this slide.

20           As Bob stated earlier this afternoon, the  
21 main purpose of this meeting is to listen to and  
22 gather your comments on the Draft Environmental Impact  
23 Statement. Many of you have already signed up to  
24 speak during this meeting; however, if you're not  
25 comfortable speaking in front of a large crowd or you

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1 have to leave early, there are forms on the table in  
2 the back of the room. You can handwrite a comment and  
3 mail it in or hand it to an NRC staffer. Or you can  
4 type it and submit it electronically.

5 We know that some of you have come here  
6 just to collect information at this time; however, if  
7 you think of something later, there are several other  
8 ways that you can submit your comments to us. As you  
9 can see by this slide, you can mail them to us, you  
10 can submit them online, you can e-mail them, or you  
11 can fax them to us.

12 Again, I'd like to note that this is a 75-  
13 day comment period and it's open until October 27th.

14 And with that, I conclude my presentation.

15 I appreciate your time and look forward to hearing  
16 your comments.

17 MR. CAMERON: Thank you very much, Doug.  
18 Before we go for questions, just let me introduce a  
19 couple other people to you. Our senior NRC official  
20 here is Scott Flanders and Scott is the Director of  
21 the Division of Site and Environmental Review, and  
22 that's where the Environmental Review Branch is, our  
23 Bob Schaaf being one of the Branch Chiefs.

24 Doug mentioned the safety review that's  
25 being conducted. We do have a project manager, Brian

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1 Anderson, right here, who is in charge of that safety  
2 review.

3 We have one of our residents. Roger, are  
4 you still -- is Roger still here? One of our  
5 residents from the existing units, this is Roger Reyes  
6 and if any of you have questions about those operating  
7 reactors, Roger will be here after the meeting and he  
8 can talk to you about that.

9 Doug also mentioned our expert staff and  
10 expert consultants that we have. And we have people  
11 here from our office, the General Counsel, in case  
12 anybody wants to talk about the hearing process after  
13 the meeting.

14 We have experts on radiation protection  
15 here on emergency planning and on socioeconomics. So,  
16 we wanted to make sure that we could cover things for  
17 you.

18 And with that, let me go for a few  
19 questions before we go to the comment period.

20 Sir, do you have a question?

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I missed his 800  
22 number that -- oh, I got it now.

23 MR. CAMERON: 1-800-368-5642. Okay.  
24 Great. Yes?

25 MR. SMITH: Yeah, Robert Smith. I got a

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1 question about when he said something about when they  
2 studied the different locations, the four different  
3 locations. Why did they find Crystal River not  
4 suitable for the power plant?

5 And the reason why I'm concerned is  
6 because Turkey Point, I hear, is building a new power  
7 plant where they're at and they were -- they went  
8 through Hurricane Andrew. And the reason why I was  
9 told they were building it where they're building it,  
10 6,800 feet behind my house, is because of the  
11 hurricanes.

12 So, I don't understand. They already got  
13 that land there. Everything's already bordered there.

14 Everything's already there for them. They've already  
15 got that area polluted. Why ruin and pollute  
16 somewhere else? I'd like to have the reason why they  
17 said that wasn't suitable.

18 MR. CAMERON: Okay. I think Robert's  
19 question is pretty clear. Who would like to answer  
20 this question about alternative sites? And also  
21 perhaps address the fact that it's the company's  
22 business decision, also, that -- rather than the  
23 NRC's. But Doug, are you going to -- are you going to  
24 talk to that? I think you're going to have to go up  
25 there because --

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1 MR. BRUNER: Our review is under the  
2 National Environmental Policy Act. And part of that  
3 is developing the Environmental Impact Statement. And  
4 in review of the alternate sites, the NRC staff has  
5 determined that none of the other alternative sites  
6 are preferable. Selecting the Levy sites itself would  
7 be a site that the applicant selected. It's the NRC's  
8 policy to evaluate those sites under the National  
9 Environmental Policy Act.

10 MR. CAMERON: And one thing you might want  
11 to -- I'm going to get to that, Robert. One that that  
12 you might want to do, Robert, is -- there's some  
13 people here from Progress that can talk to their  
14 business decision on this. But let's make sure that  
15 you understand the NRC's evaluation and --

16 MR. SMITH: I'm not -- Progress Energy,  
17 that's not my question. They -- he said that the  
18 Nuclear Regulatory Commission decided that it would be  
19 best there.

20 Why would it be best there and not already  
21 where they got a nuclear -- if it's not suitable to  
22 build it there in Crystal River, then why not shut  
23 Crystal River down? They're not going to shut Turkey  
24 Point down.

25 MR. CAMERON: Okay. Let's -- as Doug did

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1 point out, the NRC's job is to see whether it was  
2 environmentally preferable. We have Andy Kugler up  
3 here to address this issue. And Andy, if in answering  
4 Robert's question, maybe you could draw that  
5 distinction between --

6 MR. KUGLER: Right.

7 MR. CAMERON: -- the Turkey Point issue.  
8 Okay?

9 MR. KUGLER: Okay.

10 MR. CAMERON: Andy Kugler.

11 MR. KUGLER: First of all, what I wanted  
12 to say is that we didn't find that the Crystal River  
13 site would be unacceptable to build a plant there.  
14 The applicant gets the -- really the first crack at  
15 deciding where they want to build. They proposed a  
16 site to us.

17 They're also required to go through a  
18 process to look for other sites that might be suitable  
19 and to determine whether or not someplace else would  
20 make a lot more sense. So, it would have to be  
21 clearly a better location. And they went -- Levy --  
22 or Progress Energy went through that process and they  
23 presented that process to us and we reviewed it.

24 Now, basically, when we look at the  
25 process they went through. They found a number of

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1 sites that you could probably build a nuclear power  
2 plant at, and they wanted to build at Levy and they  
3 indicated there were business decisions behind that.

4 What we were doing is saying, okay, that's  
5 the site you chose. Is there another site somewhere  
6 in this region of interest that is obviously better?

7 And so we looked at these sites that they  
8 had found and what we concluded was none of them were  
9 obviously better. But that doesn't mean that you  
10 couldn't build a plant at those other locations.

11 So, we're not saying you couldn't build  
12 more plants at Crystal River. We're just saying that  
13 Crystal River's not obviously superior or  
14 environmentally preferable to the Levy site that they  
15 had selected. So, there's a distinction there.

16 Again, we're not saying Crystal River  
17 could not be acceptable. We're just saying it's not  
18 environmentally preferable.

19 MR. CAMERON: And the --

20 MS. SIELING: You mean to what?

21 MR. CAMERON: -- the decision -- please.  
22 The decision of Florida Power and Light, their  
23 business decision --

24 MR. KUGLER: At Turkey Point.

25 MR. CAMERON: -- is Turkey Point. If you

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1 just --

2 MR. KUGLER: Well, I mean, we don't  
3 necessarily know everything behind their business  
4 decisions. It's true that at Turkey Point they're  
5 choosing to build additional units at an existing  
6 site, and that's not uncommon.

7 You know, some of the reasons that I know  
8 that Progress Energy indicated behind their decision-  
9 making included things such as having some level of  
10 separation between the power plants so that a single -  
11 - say, a single storm event, or tornado, or something  
12 like that, might not take out all the units'  
13 generation capacity at one time. That's really a  
14 business decision, though. That's not within the  
15 purview of the environmental review.

16 MR. CAMERON: And I know that during the  
17 comment period, you might want to comment on this.  
18 We're doing questions now. You probably have a  
19 comment.

20 MS. SIELING: Well, just that they never  
21 answered the question. But I do have a question.

22 MR. CAMERON: Okay. You have a question?

23 MS. SIELING: My comment is, they never  
24 answered his question.

25 MR. CAMERON: Do you want to ask a

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1 question?

2 MS. SIELING: Is this part of SWFMD? Was  
3 this the water -- Water Management District up here?

4 MR. KUGLER: Oh, she's asking about the  
5 Water Management District.

6 MS. SIELING: Yeah.

7 MR. KUGLER: Well, the Water Management  
8 District is -- is part of the State's regulatory --

9 MS. SIELING: SWFMD?

10 MR. KUGLER: South -- well, this is -- is  
11 this Southwest Florida?

12 MS. SIELING: Yes.

13 MR. KUGLER: Right. That's -- they --  
14 they have their own role. But that's separate from  
15 the federal role.

16 MS. SIELING: I just wanted to know who.  
17 But my question is, why do they not build it in an  
18 area who actually benefits from the power?

19 MR. KUGLER: So, okay. I don't think --  
20 we didn't have the -- so, her question was, why did  
21 they not build it in a location that would benefit  
22 from the power? Well --

23 MR. CAMERON: There might be some  
24 assumptions.

25 MR. KUGLER: Yeah, there's an assumption

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1 in there that the folks in this county wouldn't  
2 benefit from the power, and I don't know that that's  
3 accurate.

4 There is always a balance between --  
5 particularly, you know, for a nuclear power plant,  
6 you're balancing between getting as close as you can  
7 to the load centers, but also staying away from  
8 population centers. So, they have to locate the  
9 plants in relatively low population areas. So, you  
10 couldn't locate it in Tampa or in Orlando.

11 A lot of times locations are based, at  
12 least in part, on the grid that the company is  
13 operating, because you have to balance your generation  
14 and your loads. And that's -- again, that's not  
15 something we get into directly. That's not part of --  
16 that's not a decision we have to make.

17 We simply are looking at whether or not  
18 the proposed site is an acceptable place to build and  
19 if there is an environmentally preferable alternative  
20 site. We don't pick the site for the applicant.

21 MR. CAMERON: Okay. Anybody on this side?  
22 Questions? And I'm running out of cord here. Would  
23 you mind coming down here and then I'd ask you if you  
24 would do the same? And why don't we go to you first  
25 then. And if you could just introduce yourself to us.

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1 And, ma'am, just so we have your name.

2 MS. SIELING: Barbara.

3 MR. CAMERON: It's what?

4 MS. SIELING: Barbara.

5 MR. CAMERON: Okay. Barbara, Gretchen,  
6 who asked the question about the Water District.

7 MS. SIELING: Do you need a last name?  
8 Sieling, S-i-e-l-i-n-g.

9 MR. CAMERON: Okay. And if you could just  
10 introduce yourself.

11 MS. ROSE: My name is Iris Rose and I'm  
12 here on behalf of the Homosassa River Alliance. And  
13 I'm not real good at all this. So, I just have a  
14 simple question.

15 What is the criteria that you all would  
16 use to determine that impacts on aquatic ecology  
17 review is small when they're taking so much of the  
18 wetlands.

19 MR. CAMERON: Okay. And Doug, can we --  
20 do you want to -- do you want to take that or is it a  
21 Corps question? But I think we want to get our  
22 Environmental Project Manager back up to the --

23 MR. BRUNER: Well, actually, I think  
24 Peyton would be good to answer this question.

25 Oh, do you want to have Peyton answer it?

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1 Peyton? This is Peyton Doub.

2 MR. DOUB: Yes, I am a Wetland Scientist  
3 and Terrestrial Ecologist with the NRC. We examined  
4 the impact to wetlands as part of our process. The  
5 NRC does not permit impacts of wetlands. That is the  
6 responsibility of the Corps of Engineers.

7 We did conclude in the Draft EIS that  
8 there would be a moderate impact to wetlands, in that  
9 it would be noticeable but it would not be -- it would  
10 not be destabilizing. We acknowledged the large  
11 acreage of wetlands that would be impacted by this  
12 project. But we also considered in the evaluation the  
13 condition of the wetlands, which many of the wetlands  
14 on the site have been extensively disturbed by  
15 existing forestry management activities. Many of them  
16 have a history of extensive logging and forestry  
17 management. So that most of the wetlands impacted are  
18 not relatively pristine wetlands. So, we factored  
19 that into the evaluation. We also factored in the  
20 extensive wetland mitigation that the applicant has  
21 proposed. They have met all of the State's  
22 requirements for wetland mitigation, which is based on  
23 a function -- a function per function basis, rather  
24 than an acre per acre basis. And we also note that  
25 the -- that mitigation has been performed as required

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1 by the Army Corps of Engineers on a watershed basis.  
2 So that mitigation has taken place in each of the  
3 impacted watersheds.

4 But to get back to your question, the EIS  
5 does acknowledge this acreage of wetland is being  
6 impacted. We're talking about 700 acres total  
7 wetlands being impacted by the project. We do note  
8 that, and we do note that that is a moderate impact.  
9 But that is a noticeable impact. Thank you.

10 MR. CAMERON: Very comprehensive. Thank  
11 you. Thanks. I'll take your question. Yes, sir.

12 MR. FELDHUSEN: Larry Feldhusen,  
13 Yankeetown, Florida. My question is just kind of a  
14 follow-up on the question before the last question.  
15 It was noted that you are required to pick a site  
16 that's not in a populated area. That raises the  
17 question of what impact will that have on the future  
18 development of Levy County? What ramifications will  
19 have -- that have going forward? Florida, of course,  
20 is jam-packed in some areas. If it's going to  
21 continue to grow, some of the counties that are less-  
22 populated, that's where they're going to be going.

23 And a follow-up to the last gentleman's  
24 answer: Does that mean -- I know that in Goethe  
25 Forest, that forest has been relatively little logged,

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1 because Mr. Goethe himself, who provided that land,  
2 hardly ever harvested any of his own timber. He went  
3 out and harvested other people's timber. So, the  
4 timbering in Goethe National Forest has been minimal,  
5 and in just recent years, since the -- since the State  
6 took it over.

7 So, I'm understanding that all wetlands  
8 are not equal and if we're going to impact some of  
9 them, we'll just go ahead and impact these, because we  
10 can classify them as less pristine; is that right?

11 MR. CAMERON: We're going to go to --  
12 we're going to go back to just to clarification, if  
13 there is any, on the wetlands question. But let me go  
14 to Dan, Dan Mussatti, NRC staff to talk about the  
15 impacts on population, okay?

16 MR. MUSSATTI: Okay. If I understand the  
17 question correctly, you're asking what will be the  
18 impact on the economy and the population, because  
19 we're putting this nuclear power plant in a low  
20 population area.

21 Well, it's hard to say that for a hundred  
22 percent sure. But all indications are that it's going  
23 to be beneficial to the area, from an economic  
24 standpoint, for population growth, and for the  
25 economic stimulus that will go into new businesses and

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1 everything being brought into the area.

2           There have been a number of studies that  
3 go all the way back to 1980, when these questions were  
4 first asked about the last round of power plants that  
5 were being built. They'd indicate that this is really  
6 an economic stimulus package, if you want to use  
7 current terminology, in that the tax money that comes  
8 from the plant brings along amenities that are  
9 attractive to new people and to other businesses that  
10 want to come into the area, and that will cause the  
11 area to flourish. There are many, many examples  
12 around the United States.

13           And if you wanted to talk to me about that  
14 afterwards, I'd be more than happy to give you some of  
15 the stories of areas where this has been a very  
16 beneficial thing. There's no indication here that  
17 there's a reason why we would expect it to be  
18 otherwise here; that this area here should probably  
19 flourish the same way that it's done in other places.

20           MR. CAMERON: Okay. Thank you, Dan.

21           And, Peyton, is there anything to say to  
22 the gentleman's question about the national forest and  
23 I have to get you on the record, I'm sorry.

24           MR. DOUB: I would just point out that  
25 we're talking about a portion of the country where

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1 wetlands are extensive throughout the landscape. So,  
2 it's impossible really to identify a site around here  
3 that doesn't have extensive wetlands. And it would be  
4 impossible to develop a project like this without  
5 impacting an extensive amount of wetlands.

6 MR. CAMERON: Okay. Thanks, Peyton.  
7 Thank you for those questions. And we're going to go  
8 to three more questions. And then we're going to go  
9 to the commenting.

10 Yes, sir? And please introduce yourself.

11 MR. GARVIN: Good afternoon. My name's  
12 Bill Garvin, I'm a homeowner in Citrus County. You've  
13 discounted wind generation. I'd be curious why. We  
14 have a shallow Gulf. You can sink poles, create wind  
15 generation off of Crystal River. You can use your  
16 existing transmission lines from Progress Energy  
17 Crystal River to distribute it. You would have no  
18 wetland impacts. And there's not a terrorist around  
19 that wants to bomb a wind generation plant.

20 MR. CAMERON: Okay. Who wants to address  
21 the issue? Andy, do you want to talk to -- do you  
22 want to talk about how the Draft EIS addressed the  
23 wind.

24 MR. KUGLER: Yes.

25 MR. CAMERON: This is Andy Kugler again.

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1 MR. KUGLER: One of the things that we  
2 have to look at as we're reviewing a project is, we  
3 look at the purpose and need; what is the applicant  
4 trying to achieve?

5 And in this case, as in pretty much all  
6 the cases we've been looking at for these new plants,  
7 they're looking to build what's called a baseload  
8 generation plant. And Doug made mention of this in  
9 his talk.

10 In other words, a plant is designed to be  
11 up and running 24 hours a day, 7 days a week,  
12 generating electricity steadily. Every power company  
13 needs a certain percentage of their plants to be  
14 baseload plants. And then other plants are designed  
15 to cycle up and down, to go up and down with the --  
16 the changes in load over the course of a day or any  
17 given period of time. So, they're looking to do  
18 baseload generation.

19 At this point in time, wind generation,  
20 solar generation, are not capable of providing  
21 baseload generation, because they're intermittent  
22 sources that the dispatcher, the person who controls  
23 the flow of electricity in the grid, he doesn't have  
24 control over those generators. So, for instance, when  
25 the wind dies down on you, he can't control that. It

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1 may happen at a time when he doesn't have other  
2 generating sources available to him.

3 Wind and solar. Every power company, I  
4 think, is trying to bring more wind and solar into  
5 their mix, but they are struggling with how to do that  
6 without destabilizing their grid, because they can't  
7 control them as well as they can control other types  
8 of generation.

9 So, we did look at it, but we determined  
10 it was not a feasible baseload generation source of  
11 energy.

12 MR. CAMERON: Okay. Thank you, Andy. And  
13 this is Renate Cannon.

14 MS. CANNON: Yes. I'm Renate Cannon, a  
15 Levy County citizen, and I have two questions. In  
16 your first volume of your EIS on page 253, line 27,  
17 28, it states: PEF estimates that plant operations  
18 would require an average total destroy of 1.58 million  
19 gallons a day of groundwater from the underlying  
20 Floridan aquifer. So, then they say total destroyed.  
21 So, I assume they're destroying 1.58 million gallons a  
22 day for the life of the operation for 40 years?

23 MR. CAMERON: Okay. Let's get an answer  
24 to that.

25 MS. CANNON: That's the first question

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1 that I have.

2 MR. CAMERON: Can we answer that one,  
3 Doug?

4 MR. BRUNER: Rajiv would be the best to  
5 answer.

6 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Turkey Point discusses  
7 that question.

8 MR. CAMERON: Okay. You heard the  
9 question. Can you just give a short summary of it?

10 MR. PRASAD (RAJIV): Yes. And as I  
11 understand the question, the question is whether 1.58  
12 million gallons a day would be withdrawn for the life  
13 of the plant. That is correct.

14 MR. CAMERON: Okay.

15 MS. CANNON: Okay.

16 MR. CAMERON: Okay. And the second  
17 question, Renate. And then we're going to go to  
18 Robert for one last question. And then we're going to  
19 go to comment. Yes.

20 MS. CANNON: And that is, who enforces the  
21 radiological parameters that are kept during the DEF,  
22 the applicant is supposed to keep during operations.

23 MR. CAMERON: Okay. As I understand this  
24 then, it's for Richard Emch, I think, is that -- who  
25 enforces the radiation effluent levels that the

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1 applicant is supposed to meet. And this Richard Emch,  
2 of the NRC staff.

3 MR. EMCH: All right. Well, my name is  
4 Richard Emch. I'm a Senior Health Physicist with the  
5 Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The responsibility for  
6 enforcing dose regulations lies with the Nuclear  
7 Regulatory Commission, ma'am, yes.

8 I'm not sure how much more detail to go  
9 into. Just that it is --

10 MS. CANNON: How often does it get  
11 checked?

12 MR. CAMERON: Okay. Thank you. And final  
13 question.

14 Yes, Mr. Smith.

15 MR. SMITH: My question is back on when he  
16 -- of end question. He said about that when the plant  
17 comes in, it's going to be like a stimulation of the  
18 economy. Well, most people didn't even want that to  
19 happen. And I -- we don't -- I moved here because I  
20 didn't want the growth. If I wanted the growth, I  
21 could have moved to Orlando or Tampa. And to me, and  
22 since I'm by myself most of the time fighting, I don't  
23 want it. And there's nothing I can do about it. My  
24 lawyer told me that I can't afford to do anything  
25 about it. So, I mean, that stimulation part of it of

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1 making it help us out with money. The government's  
2 already tried to help us out and we're further in debt  
3 now, and I sure don't want to see this County go like  
4 Crystal River. And another thing with Crystal River -  
5 -

6 MR. CAMERON: And we're going to count  
7 that as a comment, and that's fine. But, do you have  
8 a question?

9 MR. SMITH: I do have a question. Because  
10 he said that. I don't understand. You know, the  
11 question is, why do I -- how did they come up with  
12 that conclusion that it's going to help us out? And  
13 we're here in this little town at the south end of  
14 Levy County, where it's the least populated, and we  
15 don't want it to happen. I don't want it to happen.

16 MR. CAMERON: And I guess that one thing  
17 people should understand about the NRC review is the  
18 NRC only -- they -- our responsibility to review  
19 certain things is limited by statute, and we're  
20 supposed to ensure that it's going to be safe and that  
21 we look at the environmental impacts.

22 And as Dan pointed out, one of the  
23 environmental impacts, socioeconomic, is there's going  
24 to be growth down here. But the NRC is not -- we  
25 don't have the authority. We're not the judge of

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1 whether it should be built.

2 Is there anybody -- Doug, do you want to  
3 say anything else?

4 MR. BRUNER: I mean, you have to look at  
5 why the NRC exists. You know, we don't propose  
6 nuclear power plants. We don't construct them. We  
7 don't operate them. The industry comes to the NRC and  
8 we process those applications. And, you know, I'm not  
9 sure what else to say.

10 MR. CAMERON: Okay. We really need to go  
11 to comments, sir. Okay?

12 MR. MAAS: Could I ask a question?

13 MR. CAMERON: Okay. And make sure --

14 MR. MAAS: Donald Maas.

15 MR. CAMERON: -- it's a question. And  
16 what's your name, please?

17 MR. MAAS: I just told you, Donald Maas.

18 MR. CAMERON: Oh, I thought you --

19 MR. MAAS: You're talking.

20 MR. CAMERON: Okay.

21 MR. MAAS: Now listen. That man right  
22 there is -- I believe he's an Italian guy. He said  
23 one plant -- Doug, I know him by -- he's the guy that  
24 hung the phone up on me when I was talking to him in  
25 Washington.

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1 MR. CAMERON: And is there a question?

2 MR. MAAS: Yes. One guy says one plant;  
3 the other guy says two plants.

4 MR. CAMERON: Well, I think we can clarify  
5 that, hopefully. There's two plants, right? It's --  
6 do you -- do you guys want to talk to this and make  
7 sure that Mr. Maas --

8 MR. BRUNER: It's one plant with two  
9 units. So, it's considered a nuclear power plant.

10 MR. CAMERON: Okay. All right. Thank you  
11 for all those questions. And, you know, there's  
12 always strong feelings about these issues and when we  
13 get to the comment period, which we're going to now,  
14 and I know a lot of you are signed up to speak, you  
15 can express those opinions that you have so that the  
16 NRC can take those into account in finalizing the  
17 Environmental Impact Statement.

18 And now we're going to go to our speakers.  
19 And the first three, we're going to Dixie, Dixie  
20 Hollins. And there's Dixie coming up. Then we're  
21 going to go to Andy Houston, Darryl Diamond, and then  
22 we're going to go to John Elnitsky.

23 MR. SMITH: Can I ask a question?

24 MR. CAMERON: No.

25 MR. SMITH: When somebody talks --

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1 MR. CAMERON: Yes.

2 MR. SMITH: -- and they make a comment or  
3 something like that, can we comment back on their  
4 comment?

5 MR. CAMERON: No, no. And that's -- I'm  
6 glad you asked that, because the NRC is not going to  
7 comment. And it's not a debate, so --

8 MR. SMITH: Okay. You answered my  
9 question.

10 MR. CAMERON: Okay. Thank you. Dixie  
11 Hollins.

12 MR. HOLLINS: Yes, sir. Good afternoon.  
13 My name's Dixie Hollins, president and owner of the  
14 Hollinswood Ranch, which is located in the northwest  
15 part of Citrus County. And I might ask if you could  
16 possibly put Slide Number 14 up there? That's fine.  
17 If you can blow up that map any, but you probably  
18 can't.

19 We are -- I am here representing previous  
20 ownership of the Hollinswood Ranch, which is basically  
21 land from the Crystal River all the way to the  
22 Withlacoochee River. And back in the '60s, Florida  
23 Power came to us and purchased approximately 5,000  
24 acres of property and put two coal-fired plants, and  
25 then they put a nuclear power plant there and two more

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1 coal-fired plants. We have been actually neighbors  
2 and lived, and still live, in close proximity to the  
3 power plant that is there today.

4 I can assure you all that they are a  
5 first-class power plant production operation. They  
6 are very safe. They are concerned with the  
7 environment.

8 I am a timber grower. I remember when  
9 they put the cooling towers there, which have salt  
10 drift in them. I asked them to put over some monitor  
11 plants there to assure that there was no salt drift  
12 contamination to our 7,000 acres of planted pine  
13 trees, and they did that and tested them for over four  
14 years, with no impact.

15 Those timbers were owned not only by my  
16 family, but they own half by Plum Creek, largest  
17 industrial timberland owner in the United States of  
18 America. They were very sensitive to drainage and  
19 drainage of their property and drainage of -- to make  
20 sure that they don't back up flood waters onto your  
21 own property.

22 They are extremely good for security.  
23 They are very high security.

24 And basically, when they're there and come  
25 there, yes, you know they're doing construction. But

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1 after they're there, you don't even know they are  
2 there because they are a very quiet operation.

3 I also want to tell the NRC that I  
4 personally am very supportive of this nuclear power  
5 plant. I hope they build it on Levy County. I really  
6 wish they would build it in Citrus County, because I'm  
7 a Citrus Countian.

8 But I also want to put my other hat on,  
9 and that is the Vice-Chair of the Chamber of Commerce  
10 and the Chair-Elect of the Economic Development  
11 Council. And those two organizations, approximately  
12 1,400 members, are very in support of this project,  
13 because we are in desire for jobs in this area.  
14 Unemployment is 14 percent. People are losing their  
15 homes, their livelihood, their houses, and having to  
16 completely shut down operations here.

17 The -- as we speak today, I'm proud here  
18 to say that the Industrial Appreciation Week is this  
19 week and the 28th barbeque in honor of Florida Power  
20 Progress Energy is tonight at 5:30 at RO Ranch, seven  
21 miles north of here.

22 And I know there's a lot of people here  
23 that are concerned, but we have lived in their  
24 backyard. I have been their neighbor. My father has  
25 been their neighbor. And I can tell you that's one of

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1 the best, securest neighbors that you will ever have.

2 And I thank you for your time.

3 MR. CAMERON: Okay. Thank you very much,  
4 Dixie. And Andy Houston.

5 MR. HOUSTON: I'm right here actually.

6 MR. CAMERON: Okay.

7 MR. HOUSTON: Good afternoon. I'm Andy  
8 Houston, City Manager for the City of Crystal River.  
9 And would like to just comment on a couple of the  
10 findings. One, the socioeconomic. I think Crystal  
11 River is evidence that having a plant built does not  
12 necessarily lead to rampant growth or overgrowth. I  
13 think it is a supplier of good employment in an area  
14 that is in desperate need of good employment  
15 opportunities. And we would certainly look forward  
16 to benefit to Citrus County, as well as Levy County,  
17 and believe that in these times it will be a  
18 beneficial addition to the area.

19 But, I'd also like to touch on the  
20 resource for water quality. By its nature, power  
21 plants are large consumers of water. But I think  
22 Progress Energy has shown itself to be a good steward  
23 of that resource.

24 We are working with Progress Energy right  
25 now and the Southwest Florida Water Management

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1 District to divert the effluent flow from our Waste  
2 Water Treatment Plant to their existing power  
3 facility. It will allow us to cease using a spray  
4 filled to displace the effluent. It will also allow  
5 Progress Energy to defer pulling about a million  
6 gallons a day of groundwater for their desulfurization  
7 process at their plant.

8 So, I think they are good stewards of the  
9 environment. I think they're good neighbors. And we  
10 certainly -- I would support their application. Thank  
11 you.

12 MR. CAMERON: Thank you. And is Darryl --  
13 Darryl Diamond? Darryl, could you come up and speak  
14 to us? Thank you.

15 MR. DIAMOND: Darryl Diamond, Town of  
16 Inglis. The good news is -- and I think that Douglas  
17 and the rest of you could be proud of that two years  
18 ago when I signed up for the Nuclear Regulatory  
19 Commission packet to be mailed to me, every couple of  
20 weeks it was. Very informative and, of course,  
21 anybody can get on the list today. That's good.  
22 You're doing that very well.

23 I am a resident that lives outside Inglis,  
24 but I'm involved in the day-to-day running on the Town  
25 of Inglis on a couple of commissions. One thing that

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1 -- it seems like we don't have as good enough  
2 communication between the Town of Inglis, Progress  
3 Energy, and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission,  
4 specifically as far as public health and safety.

5 When I leave here today, I can give my  
6 card to any one of you. I just would like to have  
7 better communication between our Chief of Police,  
8 which is Chief Dixon, and our Mayor, Bill Lake,  
9 particularly with public health and safety.  
10 Particularly as we get closer to the start of this  
11 build out.

12 Incidentally, I know all the police in  
13 Inglis, all five of them. We're going to need more  
14 police and we'd like to have some cooperation. We  
15 barely can afford our police force, so any help that -  
16 - and I know the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is not  
17 there to specifically force Progress Energy to help us  
18 monetarily. But if I could bring it up and anybody  
19 could help us, we would appreciate it.

20 A couple more things, which is not the  
21 NRC's direct influence, is we will probably need a  
22 sewer system. We have none. We don't have the money  
23 for it. And we also have a lot of roads that need to  
24 be paved.

25 Again, this is not directly the NRC. I

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1 brought this up to the PSC two years ago. And I just  
2 want to keep on bringing it up, so maybe some of the  
3 ears from Progress Energy will come -- you know, maybe  
4 there will be an epiphany and they'll come to one of  
5 our Commission meetings and say, hey, we're here to  
6 help you with this growth.

7 Thank you very much. That's all I have to  
8 say.

9 MR. CAMERON: Thank you, Darryl. And a  
10 lot of times we know that people are interested in  
11 what the company's rationale and vision is, in terms  
12 of new plant applications, and we have John Elnitsky  
13 with us, who's going to talk to us and John is the  
14 Vice President of New Generation Projects and  
15 Programs.

16 MR. ELNITSKY: Yes, sir. Good afternoon  
17 and thank you for your time here today. As mentioned,  
18 my name is John Elnitsky and I'm with Progress Energy.

19 I have three key points I'd like to talk  
20 about today. And you'll be happy to know I'm not  
21 going to use any PowerPoint slides, so we're going to  
22 go pretty quickly.

23 But I want to talk about why we think the  
24 Levy Nuclear Power project is important to Florida and  
25 I want to cover three things. First off, our

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1 commitment and focus on safety; our continuing  
2 involvement with the citizens of Florida; and our  
3 dedication to the long-term energy and economic  
4 security of Florida.

5 So, let me start off with our commitment  
6 to safety. Progress Energy Florida is committed to  
7 providing safe and reliable electric power to over 1.6  
8 million customers in Florida, every hour of every day.  
9 That takes a lot of advanced planning that we are  
10 committed to support that reliability and that safety.

11 We operate a nuclear power plant, as well  
12 as four fossil power plants, really just about eight  
13 miles as the crow flies from our proposed Levy nuclear  
14 power plant site. And we do that safely 24 hours a  
15 day and will continue. That same commitment to safety  
16 will continue with our operations at Levy.

17 Secondly, let me talk about our continuing  
18 involvement with the community. I'm glad to see so  
19 many of our neighbors here today to talk to and  
20 participate with this event.

21 The new nuclear power project isn't really  
22 just about energy. It's really mostly about people.  
23 It's about those 1.6 million customers I talked about  
24 that we have to serve every day. Those people expect  
25 that when you turn that light switch on, the lights

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1     come on. And they want to see that happen, regardless  
2     of whether the wind blows or the sun shines.

3             Progress Energy Florida has been working  
4     with the community leaders and property owners since  
5     late 2006, when we first announced our plans to build  
6     the proposed Levy County nuclear power project and the  
7     200 miles or so of transmission lines that are  
8     associated with it.

9             Since we started that process four years  
10    ago, we have remained committed to seeking community  
11    input and will continue to remain engaged with the  
12    public.

13            In an effort to provide a meaningful  
14    dialogue, the company used an innovative and first of  
15    a kind community outreach program called the Community  
16    Partnership for Energy Planning. This process helped  
17    Progress Energy gather information and recommendations  
18    from local government and communities.

19            We also helped create the Levy Neighbors  
20    Group to give the most up-to-date information to our  
21    neighbors who lived the closest to the proposed site.

22            Community input has improved our process.  
23    About 5,000 property owners from across the community  
24    attended over 22 open houses in 10 different counties  
25    to discuss our choices for locating transmission lines

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1 and the nuclear power plant. More than 40 other  
2 community informational meetings were held across our  
3 region and will continue.

4 Based on feedback from the community, more  
5 than 90 percent of our preferred corridors for  
6 transmission lines were located along, or adjacent to,  
7 existing right-of- ways, thereby minimizing the impact  
8 on the environment.

9 We are committed to being open and  
10 thorough this process and we will continue to seek  
11 public input as we move forward with this important  
12 project.

13 The Levy plant will actually play an  
14 important role in the community, as well. And you've  
15 heard some of that discussion already here this  
16 afternoon. At the peak of construction, we will  
17 create 3,000 jobs. And the plant itself, when it's in  
18 operation, will provide over 800 permanent, good  
19 paying jobs in our community.

20 Probably more significant, at least maybe  
21 in my humble opinion, is the benefit to the community  
22 from these employees that make their homes right here  
23 in our local community. For example, in Crystal  
24 River, our employees have actually been active in  
25 chartering schools, founding churches, creating Little

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1 League teams -- hopefully some of those teams are  
2 helping the Rays a little better here -- and continued  
3 countless hours to non-profit agencies and community  
4 causes.

5 Our employees live and work here. This  
6 isn't just a job. This is their community. And they  
7 feel a very important sense of attachment to that  
8 community.

9 Finally, let me address my third point,  
10 the importance of the Levy nuclear project to the long  
11 term economic and energy security of Florida. Florida  
12 is the nation's fourth most populous state and it's  
13 the third nationally in overall energy consumption.  
14 To properly address the long term energy needs of  
15 Florida, we must have long term planning and long term  
16 solutions.

17 Progress Energy is able to meet today's  
18 energy needs in our region, because of the careful  
19 planning conducted years ago. You just heard Hollins  
20 talk about a little of that. Just as we need to make  
21 more infrastructure investments and plans to build  
22 things like new roads and new schools, Progress Energy  
23 needs to stay in front of the curve and plan the  
24 electric system of the future that will provide  
25 reliable and safe power for our customers.

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1 Progress Energy has developed a balanced  
2 solution. We plan to use that solution to help meet  
3 our load growth needs. That solution includes  
4 alternative sources of energy, such as wind and solar;  
5 expanding our efficiency programs. In fact, we have  
6 some of the most effective efficiency programs in the  
7 nation. But it also includes building new state-of-  
8 the-art plants that meet Florida's growing energy  
9 needs.

10 Energy efficiency and renewable energy  
11 sources are vital parts of our strategy, but they  
12 cannot supply all of the expected energy demand.  
13 That's why Progress Energy is planning to construct  
14 state-of-the-art plants in Levy County.

15 The Levy plant will also play an important  
16 role in our strategy to serve Florida's energy future.  
17 Based on today's technology, nuclear power is the only  
18 large-scale, electric source that is capable of  
19 providing carbon-free energy 24 hours a day, 7 days a  
20 week.

21 By building fuel diversity and long term  
22 fuel savings into our plans, Progress Energy Florida  
23 is helping to ensure the long term economic  
24 competitiveness and viability of Florida. In short,  
25 the Levy nuclear project will help ensure the right

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1 balance of reliable, environmentally-responsible and  
2 cost-effective power tomorrow.

3 So, in conclusion, let me just state,  
4 Progress Energy Florida remains committed to my three  
5 points; an on-going commitment and focus on safety,  
6 our continuing involvement with the citizens of  
7 Florida, and our dedication to the long term energy  
8 and economic needs of our State.

9 These commitments and our on-going support  
10 of the NRC process, and continued open communication,  
11 guide our steps as we continue to work hard on this  
12 new project.

13 And I'd like to say I've got several  
14 members of our team here today that are more than  
15 happy to answer any of your questions. These are  
16 great people. They have been working very hard to  
17 make this project a reality. And they are more than  
18 proud and more than happy to talk to you about their  
19 understanding of how this project is going to move  
20 forward.

21 Energy for today and energy security for  
22 tomorrow is our pledge for Florida and everyone who  
23 calls this State our home.

24 So, on behalf of the 4,000 employees of  
25 Progress Energy Florida, I'd like to thank you all for

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1 being here today and I'd like to thank the members of  
2 the NRC and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for their  
3 dedication to the on-going energy security of our  
4 nation and our State. Thank you very much.

5 MR. CAMERON: Okay. Thank you, John.  
6 We're going to go to Betty Berger and Renate Cannon,  
7 and then Robert Smith. And if you do have a prepared  
8 statement, we'll be glad to attach that to the  
9 transcript if it's too long to get through.

10 MS. BERGER: All right.

11 MR. CAMERON: But you go ahead, Betty.

12 MS. BERGER: Okay. I brought my glasses.  
13 The light doesn't look that good.

14 These comments are under Title 10 of the  
15 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 51.

16 MR. CAMERON: I can't get up there. Can  
17 someone help Betty with that? Okay.

18 MS. BERGER: Is this right? Thank you.  
19 You guys are the best organized I've ever run into.

20 Well, this is about Title 10, Part 51,  
21 talking about the subject you said to talk about.

22 The Cross-Florida Barge Canal was stopped  
23 at a depth of 12 feet, due to concerns of salt water  
24 intrusion into our drinking water; however, it brought  
25 salt water inland from the Gulf, a distance of 11

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1 miles. It requires periodic flushing of fresh water  
2 from Lake Rousseau to dilute the salt content.

3 PEF plans to pipe salt water up the Barge  
4 Canal from the Gulf to an area just west of the lock,  
5 across Greenways and Trails, Greenways and Trails  
6 Recreation Tract 2000-1. There's planned a heavy-haul  
7 road crossing Highway 40 and up to their site; a  
8 distance of 15 miles. It's understood they plan to  
9 wash their cooling towers with it.

10 Their site is within the Florida aquifer,  
11 which SWFMD says is fed only by rainfall. There's a  
12 hydrologic divide that prevents aquifer recharge from  
13 either surface or groundwater. Four public water  
14 supplies south of the site depend on that aquifer,  
15 plus thousands of private wells.

16 PEF also plans to consume fresh water of  
17 an undetermined amount, but near 2 million gallons of  
18 water a day.

19 There is a high risk of contaminating that  
20 aquifer with salt water by piping it in. A report by  
21 Hagemeyer and Stewart, who work for the University of  
22 South Florida, called "Resistivity Investigation of  
23 Salt Water Intrusion Sea Level Canal", talking about  
24 the Barge Canal. They state, "A wedge of saline water  
25 is moving landward under and adjacent to the Canal.

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1 It is unstable, suggesting the system has not yet  
2 reached equilibrium.

3 Secondly, the sea level hydraulic heads of  
4 the Canal have created a site for strong groundwater  
5 discharge, promoting upwelling of deeper, highly  
6 mineralized water under the Canal."

7 "The Floridian aquifer is Florida's  
8 principal source of potable water. The Canal was cut  
9 into the karstic carbonate rocks that comprise the  
10 aquifer. The excavation provides for direct exchange  
11 of salty canal water with the shallow portion of the  
12 aquifer. It lowered the hydraulic head in the aquifer  
13 at the Canal to sea level, creating the hydraulic  
14 potential for an upward and landward movement of salt  
15 water.

16 The extent of salt water intrusion around  
17 the Canal was examined by Faulkner, 1973, who  
18 estimated that construction caused ground level water  
19 levels to drop nearly 3M."

20 I don't know what 3M means.

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Meters. Three  
22 meters.

23 MS. BERGER: Oh, okay. Thank you.  
24 Besides piping salt water -- now this is -- that ends  
25 what they said.

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1           Besides piping salt water up the Barge  
2 Canal, PEF plans to barge all of their plant building  
3 materials up to the lock site and dredge a staging  
4 area for unloading. There's never been a barge that  
5 made this trip. A half loaded one named "Aiple" went  
6 aground just west -- just east of the 19 Bridge.

7           PEF says that Crystal River nuclear site  
8 and state residents within 10 miles must be protected  
9 from direct radioactive release. They show the area  
10 encompassing 10 miles and show the Levy nuclear plants  
11 overlapping in the same area. They state the  
12 evacuation routes to go north, south, and east to  
13 escape radiation release.

14           However, Inglis is like the meat in the  
15 sandwich. If both sites are affected, there's Crystal  
16 River plant in the south, Levy plants in the north,  
17 the Gulf on the west, and the heavy-haul road  
18 preventing escape to the east. That would be the only  
19 way that Inglis residents could get east to Dunnellon,  
20 and they can't get there with a heavy-haul road.

21           And if they did -- one did, there's the  
22 radioactive half life of several hundred years, so  
23 there's no return.

24           Under 51.45 Environmental Report.  
25 Alternatives. PEF owns enough land at Crystal River

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1 which on the Gulf would not require 15 miles of  
2 piping. To use that site, rather than Levy, piping  
3 could go out into the Gulf far enough so Gulf water  
4 heating would not be a problem.

5 Irreversible commitments of resources  
6 would be involved if their plan is implemented. Our  
7 area of Inglis and Yankeetown could be spared the  
8 increased truck traffic and transmission lines now  
9 planned. Many homes would be affected, as these lines  
10 require much space. They affect people living near  
11 them.

12 Large trucks emit diesel fumes that are  
13 cancer-causing, according to EPA. It takes 500 feet  
14 to stop one. Our one stop sign in Inglis would mean  
15 nothing.

16 The NRC has not approved the Westinghouse  
17 AP-1000 containment building. PEF would pass on the  
18 redesign cost to rate payers at great economic cost.  
19 Relocating the plant site would save this cost for our  
20 area. Water laws do not allow industry to affect  
21 other users. The threat of salt water intrusion into  
22 our drinking water and the increased usage from the  
23 aquifer could affect availability of four public water  
24 supplies and many private wells.

25 Then, under 51.10, NEPA -- how do you say

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1 that, NEPA or NEPA?

2 MR. CAMERON: NEPA.

3 MS. BERGER: NEPA directs that laws and  
4 policies shall be administered in accordance with  
5 policies set forth in NEPA. Inglis is a member of  
6 NEPA. Limitations are imposed on NRC's authority  
7 under the NEPA Act. And by the Federal Water  
8 Pollution Control Act, NRC recognizes that pollutant  
9 discharges into receiving waters rests by statute with  
10 EPA.

11 Other environmental concerns. Increased  
12 use of the Barge Canal will harm the endangered  
13 manatees who frequent it, birthing and feeding there.  
14 Florida Water Plan 1995 lists several Florida Statutes  
15 and Florida Administrative Codes and addresses general  
16 issues, water supply, flood protection, flood plain  
17 management, water quality, natural systems,  
18 coordination and evaluation.

19 The plan of PEF would violate many of  
20 these laws. PEF violates the Levy County  
21 Comprehensive Plan.

22 Sincerely, Betty Berger. And I have my  
23 address and my phone number. And I attached the  
24 hydrologic divide that shows that area is fed only by  
25 rainfall. This Tarmac Mine wants to pump 22 million

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1 gallons of water a day from there if they got through  
2 with their special exception. There won't -- you  
3 should turn on your faucet in Inglis, nothing will  
4 come out, is what I'm afraid of. And many people are  
5 of this opinion, because the water is so limited.  
6 What Tarmac would have to --

7 MR. CAMERON: I'm going to have ask you to  
8 conclude.

9 MS. BERGER: That finishes it.

10 MR. CAMERON: Is that it?

11 MS. BERGER: That's it.

12 MR. CAMERON: Thank you very much.

13 MS. BERGER: All I did was --

14 MR. CAMERON: That was perfect, perfect.

15 MS. BERGER: Well -- and you got all the  
16 attachments. Anybody -- I got a couple more copies.

17 MR. CAMERON: And if we could -- if you  
18 could put the attachment here, and we'll get this to  
19 the -- we'll get it to Gretchen. Thank you, Betty.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Very good, Betty.

21 MS. BERGER: Well, thank you. And thank  
22 all of you.

23 MR. CAMERON: So, Betty's a celebrity.  
24 Thank you, Betty. Thank you very, very much.

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: There ought to be

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1 more people like her.

2 MR. CAMERON: And Renate, we're ready to  
3 listen to you. Thanks, Renate. Thanks, Betty.

4 MS. CANNON: Thank you for letting me  
5 speak. My name is Renate Cannon, a Levy County  
6 citizen. Before I say anything, I would like to  
7 commend Betty Berger for attending this meeting. The  
8 lady is, how shall we say, like me, belonging to the  
9 group of the elderly persons in this room, and  
10 deserves credit just for that.

11 And -- but one comment she made, I have my  
12 sincere doubts that Progress Energy Florida is  
13 violating the Levy County Comp Plan. I have attended  
14 all the meetings when they asked for their rezoning,  
15 which was necessary. And I'm sure the company would  
16 not have continued its pursuit of the application if  
17 the Levy County zoning decision had not been in favor  
18 of the proposed project. It would not have been  
19 possible.

20 But that aside, my concern is -- and I  
21 read both volumes of this Environmental Impact  
22 Statement and I would like to express my gratitude to  
23 those who wrote this, shall I say, instrument. For  
24 lay persons like myself, it was fairly easy to  
25 understand.

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1           The staff of your Commission have been  
2 very accommodating to me. This very afternoon, I made  
3 darn sure I would be here for the -- what's that  
4 called, the open house, and they answered every  
5 question I had to the best of my -- of their ability,  
6 and it is greatly appreciated.

7           But once again, I agree with Betty. The  
8 groundwater consumption is my greatest concern. And  
9 the radiological parameters, or shall we say possible  
10 releases, accidents, that's the least of my problem.  
11 If this were to happen, the Lord is still in charge.  
12 I don't care what this country thinks, who they are,  
13 what they are, where they are, without the Lord, they  
14 ain't going nowhere. They don't open and you don't  
15 close. What the Lord wants to have closed, you don't  
16 open. What he opens, you don't close.

17           So, that's the least of my problem. But  
18 the groundwater, until I do get to go to that other  
19 shore, one of these days, the Lord willing, I would  
20 like to live and I don't live as close as poor Betty  
21 does. I live between Chiefland and Cedar Key. And --  
22 but I definitely -- and hate to say it, but SWFWMD  
23 does not have the greatest reputation of all the --  
24 including people of South Florida Management Water  
25 District. I am blessed to live in the territory of

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1 Suwannee River Water Management District, praise the  
2 Lord.

3 And so, the thing is, the regulations are  
4 there, the laws are there, statutes, you name it. The  
5 enforcement, that's where the weak link in the chain  
6 is. And enough personnel to enforce on a regular  
7 basis, is most of the time lacking.

8 And one last thing. I agree with the  
9 gentleman who sits behind Betty. I'm sorry, I forgot  
10 the gentleman's name who said -- and I can understand  
11 completely where he's coming from. He moved up here  
12 from South Florida to get away from the crowds and to  
13 live peaceful in a rural environment. And here he  
14 comes -- being -- having the things made in front of  
15 his door.

16 I too am in the state, but not by choice.  
17 My husband is a fifth generation Floridian. He  
18 couldn't stand Texas and Texas, by gosh, is my  
19 paradise if I ever saw one. But I'll be here. I'll  
20 live through these crappy storms and other stuff, and  
21 -- but I mean, you cannot have it both.

22 And there I agree with the gentleman from  
23 PEF. You can't constantly -- forgive me for the term,  
24 pump people into this State -- I hope the Governor is  
25 listening. We already don't got enough resources, but

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1 no, what do we do? We need to have more people come  
2 in to the State to settle here. I think I don't hear  
3 right. And so, naturally, they need more resources,  
4 including electricity.

5 The gentleman told us, Florida is the  
6 fourth populated State in the nation and third in  
7 energy consumption. Any more questions? I don't.  
8 And thank you for being patient with me. I appreciate  
9 it. Thank you.

10 MR. CAMERON: Thank you very much, Renate.  
11 And now, we're going to hear from Robert Smith. And  
12 then we'll go to Greg Pantaleo and Norman Hopkins.

13 MR. SMITH: Hi, my name's Robert Smith and  
14 I live 6,800 feet from Reactor 2. My property adjoins  
15 Progress Energy's property. And I want to comment  
16 later on, but this -- when -- during the questions, I  
17 had a lot of questions.

18 I had a five way conference call with the  
19 Nuclear Regulatory Commission a while ago and, at that  
20 time, they didn't answer none of them. Today I got  
21 two of them answered so far, so I'm going to run  
22 through them so they're on the record. And maybe  
23 after this meeting somebody can get with me and give  
24 me some answers.

25 My first question is, health studies on

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1 people living within a mile and a half of a nuclear  
2 facility in the last 30 years. Has there one been  
3 done, and what are the results? And I'd like it in  
4 writing, if there has been.

5 Devaluation of property that adjoins a  
6 nuclear facility. What kind of studies have been done  
7 on that in the last 30 years? And if there has been,  
8 what are the results? And I'd like it in writing.

9 Which way does the water -- this is for, I  
10 guess, the Army Corps of Engineers. Which way does  
11 the water flow underground in my area of the proposed  
12 site? I have no answers. I don't know if it's  
13 running towards me, towards the ocean, or towards the  
14 Gulf or what. I'd like an answer on that.

15 On which way does the wind blow on -- for  
16 the proposed -- the proposed site in a year, average  
17 year? Does it blow out of the north the most? Does  
18 it blow out of the south? Does it blow northwest?  
19 Does it blow southeast or southwest? I'd like to know  
20 if they've done a study on that in the year since  
21 they've had a weather station, so I know -- what I've  
22 been told, mostly out of the southeast, which would be  
23 blowing to the northwest, which would affect my home.  
24 I'd like to know -- have an answer on that, in  
25 writing if possible.

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1 And on the salt drift, if the wind is out  
2 of the south or southeast and it's going to blow  
3 towards my land, is it going to affect my metal roof?  
4 My cars? My vehicles? I mean, and if it does, is  
5 Progress Energy going to step up and be responsible to  
6 replace my new, beautiful roof that I built on my  
7 dream home? I'd like to know about that. Or my cars,  
8 if the salt air gets on it. I'd like to have that  
9 answered.

10 What kind of effect is the nuclear plant  
11 going to have with the salt on the animals that are  
12 around me? The deer -- I see some of the stuff,  
13 comments that they put in the environmental list, but  
14 on the deer, the turkeys, the squirrels, the rabbits,  
15 and all the other animals. I mean, the salt air, I  
16 know it kills a lot of things. Deer do like salt  
17 licks and stuff, but it does kill vegetation and  
18 stuff, because I know a lot of the islands northwest  
19 of Turkey -- or nuclear -- of Crystal River have some  
20 dead trees. And I'd like to know why that's  
21 happening.

22 I'd like -- what kind of effect is it  
23 going to have on my vegetable garden? I mean, what --  
24 the salt, anything that gets from that, the water and  
25 stuff like that, is it -- is it going to, you know,

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1 affect my garden? Has there been any studies done on  
2 people living within a mile and a half that have  
3 gardens or small farms, not including tree farms? I'd  
4 like to know if there's been any effect on them or  
5 they've come up with any results so we know what's  
6 going on there. So, if I eat my vegetables, I'm not  
7 going to glow at night or I'm not going to die, or  
8 whatever might happen. I'm not saying that I'm going  
9 to, but.

10 Has there been any studies on the effect  
11 of the noise, the lights of a power plant, with people  
12 living within a mile and a half? Now, I know I -- I'm  
13 from the Florida Keys and I lived in the Bay in Key  
14 Largo and I could see Turkey Point from 35 miles from  
15 my house. And I could see a gigantic orange glow.  
16 Now, it's going to be 6,800 feet behind my house and  
17 when I look in the corner of my house out of the  
18 porch, I see nothing but black sky and trees. And it  
19 ain't going to be that way no more. And I'd like to  
20 know if there -- if anybody has been living that  
21 close, what did the noise and all that do to them?  
22 Because it's going to affect me. No matter what  
23 anybody says, living 6,800 feet from that plant, it's  
24 going to affect me.

25 I'd also like to know where they're going

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1 to store the waste on the property. I haven't been  
2 able to find it in none of the things -- actually  
3 where they're going to store it. Where it's -- how --  
4 is it going to be underground? Above ground? Is  
5 there going to be a chance of water leakage? Is it  
6 going to be close to my house? What's going to go on?

7 I know the shooting range is going to be  
8 quite close and that's going to go on once a week, I  
9 believe, pretty regularly. I'd like to know, you  
10 know, what they're going to do with that and how long  
11 is it going to be there? I'd like to have an answer  
12 on that in writing.

13 And number 10, the gentleman answered for  
14 me, but I'll put in on record anyhow. I want to know  
15 how many nuclear plants are within nine and a half  
16 miles of each other and how many are built inland with  
17 no water around them, which a gentleman here told me  
18 there's one. And that they pump water to it.

19 And another question I'd like to know,  
20 maybe from the County Commissioners or from Nuclear  
21 Regulatory, how come the growth in Crystal River seems  
22 to be east and south and not around Crystal River, the  
23 plant itself? I know Mr. Hollins, Dixie Hollins, I  
24 don't know if he's still here or not, he says he was  
25 in the general area. Well, as far as I know, he lives

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1 five miles from that place. And there's not much  
2 growth out in that area at all. I'd like to know the  
3 reason why.

4 I also -- number 12, which you all kind of  
5 semi-answered, but I really don't have no answer on  
6 it, which I'd like for the record is, why not build  
7 the nuclear plant at Crystal River, where the ground's  
8 already polluted? The water's there. All the  
9 facility's there. Turkey Point's already building one  
10 with theirs. It's right there. And there's no homes  
11 within three or four miles of Turkey Point, because I  
12 know that area quite well. It's all swampland. I'd  
13 like to you know why they're not, you know, why not go  
14 there? I mean, I don't understand the money that  
15 we're going to spend to bring the water in. And we're  
16 going to dump the water back out at the power plant in  
17 Crystal River from Levy County. So, I just -- I can't  
18 understand that. That's got me confused.

19 Okay, 13. What kind of study has been  
20 done on the new nuclear power plant on hurricane?  
21 They say they're moving it there because of the  
22 hurricanes. Well, I don't think the new power plant,  
23 the AP-1000 or whatever, has it been tested for a  
24 hurricane? I know Turkey Point had Andrew come  
25 through. And I was there and, you know, their

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1 building -- if it was a problem, why are they building  
2 another one back there? You know, if they had a  
3 problem, they would move it inland or move it to the  
4 Everglades or whatever. I don't understand that.

5 Fourteen. The new one that you all  
6 approved, I believe, in Georgia, I want to know how  
7 many people are living within a half a -- a mile and a  
8 half of that plant. I'd like to have, you know, let  
9 me know how many people are in the same area as we  
10 are, a mile and half, mile and a quarter, something  
11 like that.

12 And my comments are that, out of all the  
13 environmentalists and stuff like that, me living as  
14 close as I do, I've had no environmentalist come on my  
15 property, contact me, talk to me, or say anything at  
16 all about my home site and where I live. I have --  
17 nobody's been there.

18 Is any of our county commissioners from  
19 Levy County here? Would they raise their hand? And  
20 who are you?

21 MS. DREW: Marsha Drew.

22 MR. SMITH: How come I've never seen you,  
23 Marsha?

24 MS. DREW: I have no idea.

25 MR. SMITH: Yeah. I even talked to you a

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1 long time ago and, oh, you were going to come see me.  
2 But you weren't there when we got sold out anyway, so  
3 -- but I'm surprised she's here.

4 MR. CAMERON: I have to ask you to --

5 MR. SMITH: What? Okay.

6 MR. CAMERON: -- wrap up, Mr. Smith.

7 MR. SMITH: I guess that's it then.

8 MR. CAMERON: Thanks for putting all those  
9 questions on the record.

10 MR. SMITH: You got it.

11 MR. CAMERON: All right. Thank you.  
12 Thank you, Mr. Smith.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr.  
14 Smith.

15 MR. CAMERON: Mr. Pantaleo. This is Greg  
16 Pantaleo. And then we're going to go to Norm Hopkins  
17 and to Dan Hilliard.

18 MR. PANTALEO: Good afternoon. I don't  
19 have anything prepared. I'm speaking from the -- from  
20 the heart. I've done some dirty things in my life.  
21 I've worked -- mined coal that was so dirty that we  
22 couldn't sell it 35 years ago and had to shut the  
23 mines down.

24 The original waste to energy plants,  
25 before we had scrubbers and electrostatic

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1 precipitators, were working there. We had to wash our  
2 hands before we could eat lunch because you didn't  
3 really know what was coming out of the sky.

4 Paper mills, back before they were  
5 regulated, and the discharge that was coming out of  
6 them.

7 And I worked nuclear power houses. And  
8 I've got to say, looking back, I didn't know it back  
9 then. It was a job. But that's one of the --  
10 probably the proudest moments in my life.

11 When I was an engineer in the reactor  
12 building in that -- that was when the Three Mile  
13 Island incident happened. We spent a year or so  
14 relooking at things, safened it up. The response from  
15 the industry, between the nuclear industry and the  
16 NRC, was tremendous. The beefing up of the steel.  
17 The things that we went back and retrofit to make that  
18 a safe plant.

19 That plant opened in '85, and again,  
20 looking back at it, that's some of the greenest work  
21 that I've ever done. Probably my insight in the green  
22 came after that. It was 25 years ago when I started  
23 having kids, when I started looking at the future, and  
24 what I was going to leave to my kids on a global  
25 scale.

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1           And I look at what we're doing to this  
2 world and the amount of carbon that we're putting out.  
3 And I see something like a swap of 2,200 megawatts of  
4 the highest carbon output source that we have, which  
5 is coal, but it's going to be decommissioned as the  
6 new plants come online.

7           And that kind of capacity of -- that you  
8 gain in carbon emissions needs to be -- we need to set  
9 the bar for the world on reducing these carbon  
10 emissions, guys. And if -- if we're not willing to do  
11 it. I mean, they're doing it in France. They're  
12 doing it in China. We don't -- we should be leading  
13 that charge and not following.

14           So, the green building trend in energy, as  
15 far as I'm concerned, the ultimate is the nuclear  
16 power. Yes, there's some localized disruption and I  
17 don't want to minimize that to anybody that might  
18 happen to live right behind it. But the -- the global  
19 impacts and the positive impacts environmentally, in  
20 my mind, so far outweigh the negative impacts that  
21 it's -- there's no question in my mind where I want to  
22 go with it.

23           So, really that's -- that's about the  
24 extent of what I had to say on this, guys. But we've  
25 heard a lot about the negative impacts. But they

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1 haven't spoken much about the positive. Please weigh  
2 those into the formula when you're making your  
3 decisions.

4 MR. CAMERON: Okay. Thank you. Thank you  
5 very much, Greg. And Norman -- Norman Hopkins?

6 MR. HOPKINS: Good afternoon, ladies and  
7 gentlemen. My name is Norman Hopkins. I live in  
8 Citrus County and I need to put my specs on so I can  
9 see some notes.

10 First of all, I'd like to applaud what  
11 Betty Berger had to say. I've been studying the  
12 environment in this area and many technical and  
13 scientific documents for the last ten years, and I  
14 applaud exactly what she said. And my heart goes out  
15 to the gentleman who lives just 6,800 yards from Plant  
16 Number 2.

17 MR. SMITH: Feet.

18 MR. HOPKINS: Feet. Sorry.

19 I would like to talk about tritium first.  
20 I can talk about three issues, but I want to mention  
21 tritium. Can you hear me all right?

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

23 MR. HOPKINS: I'm concerned about tritium  
24 for several reasons. Fifty years or so ago, measured  
25 amounts of tritium in groundwater near Ocala elevated

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1 to more than 100 hundred times background levels.  
2 They went from six tritium units in the groundwater to  
3 more than 620 units.

4 Now, the reason for that was because on  
5 the other side of the planet there was nuclear  
6 activity and all nuclear activities release tritium.  
7 All nuclear reactors, including those proposed for the  
8 Levy plant and also Crystal River, emit tritium.

9 Tritium is the third isotope of hydrogen  
10 and it's unstable. It emits beta particles, which are  
11 damaging to human physiology, and is a listed cancer-  
12 causing agent by the EPA.

13 Those plants emit tritium throughout their  
14 life of operation. And they remain active, although  
15 they've got a half life of 12.3 years to something  
16 like 120 years. The problem with tritium is that it  
17 abides within a water molecule, replacing non-  
18 radioactive hydrogen atoms. So, it's imbedded within  
19 the water molecule and it can't easily be removed.

20 Now -- and I've only had access to the EIS  
21 volumes for about a day and a half and I haven't been  
22 able to examine them thoroughly. But one other thing  
23 that appears to me is that the dosage models used in  
24 the EIS reports only consider routine releases from  
25 the plant. They fail to account for accidental

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1 releases, and there's a warning in there that they  
2 should not be used for accidental releases.

3 Neither do, I believe, that they deal with  
4 accumulations of radionuclides in groundwaters. So,  
5 over the life of the plant, within the fallout area of  
6 the aerial emissions, we have an accumulation of  
7 tritium.

8 Now, normal -- the calculations that -- of  
9 safety levels within humans take account of the fact  
10 that within a few days, the body will vent water taken  
11 into the body under normal circumstances. What we're  
12 talking about as a danger is the accumulation within  
13 the groundwater supplies that are the basis of the  
14 drinking water taken from the Floridian -- from the  
15 Floridan aquifer.

16 I'm also concerned with regard to  
17 releasing tritium, the fact that the 13 miles of  
18 pipeline conveying water effluent from the blowdown  
19 water to the Crystal River plant, I believe, is a  
20 single PVC pipe, as opposed to a PVC pipe enclosed  
21 within a second PVC pipe, with leak detectors to  
22 detect leakages from the main pipe. Now, that pipe  
23 passes by mining operations and is subject to seismic  
24 disturbances throughout its life, and I don't know  
25 what assurance can be given that that is safe.

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1 Now, because of the tritium release into  
2 the atmosphere, and also into groundwater, there are  
3 some things that I think we need to know about, which  
4 I haven't been able to find in the documentation  
5 that's the subject of this meeting.

6 So, before licensing, the publishing --  
7 sorry -- the public needs to be apprised of how, in  
8 what quantities, and into which areas harmful  
9 radionuclides are released and accumulated over the  
10 operating life of the plant for both gaseous and  
11 liquids effluent pathways from the plant, together  
12 with calculated dosages resulting from them,  
13 especially with regard to infants fed on mother's  
14 milk.

15 Do I have chance to go to another issue?

16 MR. CAMERON: I think you're pretty much  
17 out of time. If you could just summarize it very  
18 quickly for us.

19 MR. HOPKINS: Yes. The next thing I want  
20 to talk about and I can talk about it tonight. But  
21 since I haven't had -- but I can also submit it in  
22 writing. I would like to talk to Mr. Hambrick about  
23 it afterwards. I have a document with me.

24 And I am concerned about where the water  
25 flows underground, conveying pollutants within it

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1 before it's released from the springs into protected  
2 water bodies, or is pumped out of the ground for use  
3 as domestic supplies.

4 MR. CAMERON: Thank you for all that  
5 information, Mr. Hopkins. And any of those  
6 alternatives, writing tonight, and also I'm sure that  
7 Mr. Hambrick will be glad to talk to you. But thank  
8 you. Thank you very much.

9 MR. HOPKINS: Thank you.

10 MR. CAMERON: And Mr. Hilliard. And then  
11 we're going to go to Maria Minno, Robert Fetrow, and  
12 Sally Price, and Bill Garvin.

13 MR. HILLIARD: Good afternoon. My name's  
14 Dan Hilliard. I represent the views of the  
15 Withlacoochee Area Residents, Incorporated, a  
16 501(c)(3) Corporation, founded in 1984. The  
17 organization's primary interest is water management  
18 and protection of our most valuable resource. We're  
19 based in Inglis, Florida.

20 After review of the draft, we were puzzled  
21 to find NRC identifies a geographically narrow scope  
22 of impact to surface waters related to intake cooling  
23 water and the Cross-Florida Barge Canal.

24 The draft mentions a priority set by the  
25 Withlacoochee Basin Board to restore Lake Rousseau and

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1 the Lower Withlacoochee River, but apparently does not  
2 acknowledge such objectives will necessitate restoring  
3 the hydrologic connection between the severed segments  
4 of the lower river. Slight location of the CWIS, as  
5 proposed by the applicant, will substantially obstruct  
6 such action.

7 The draft mentions proposed water  
8 withdrawal from the Withlacoochee River water shed.  
9 It does not examine cumulative impacts, which were  
10 results from the applicant's diversion of fresh water  
11 resources and the State's obligation to provide water  
12 supply to the very development which provides the  
13 basis of need for this power plant.

14 Draft Section 5.2 recognizes Florida's  
15 Clean Water Act Section 401, certification for this  
16 project, yet it is not clear to us this is justified.  
17 There is no information submitted by the applicant  
18 that addresses diversion of fresh water from coastal  
19 estuaries and the attendant modification of inshore  
20 water chemistry, which will result.

21 Such impacts will directly increase  
22 average salinity in the lower reaches of the  
23 Withlacoochee River, Withlacoochee Bay, and by  
24 extension, adjacent estuaries and preserves. This is  
25 a river system already greatly impacted by

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1 construction of the Cross-Florida Barge Canal.

2 In large part, the present bifurcation of  
3 the lower river is the basis of need for restoration  
4 priorities set by the Basin Board.

5 It is not clear the Commission understands  
6 fresh water supply source locations within the Canal,  
7 as we do, or what quantity of supply may be provided  
8 by springs within the Canal. We are providing  
9 information about substantial spring flows in the  
10 Canal that are apparently not addressed by the  
11 applicant or draft.

12 Although the applicant and draft  
13 repeatedly represents that the source of cooling water  
14 for the plant is the Gulf of Mexico, in our view the  
15 majority supply will be fresh water contribution from  
16 springs in the Canal and leakage from the Inglis Dam.

17 The question is unresolved at this point  
18 or what quantity of fresh water will actually be  
19 diverted for cooling water and what impacts, both  
20 environmental and economic, will follow.

21 We ask if the chosen site location for the  
22 CWIS is so necessary that it may usurp rational water  
23 management practices. We have prepared a rather  
24 lengthy written submission, which is presented in five  
25 copies for review by the Commission and other

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1 interested authorities. The text is supplied in  
2 printed form and on computer disk, which also include  
3 referenced material -- all referenced material, with  
4 the exception of the COLA and the draft EIS, which I  
5 assume you have.

6 We believe the Commission has statutory  
7 authority and responsibility to review these issues in  
8 a more comprehensive manner than has been presented in  
9 the draft. The issues at hand have both environmental  
10 and economic impact that will prevail over the life of  
11 the plant. They are worthy of consideration, in our  
12 opinion, as are the alternatives discussed within the  
13 submitted documents.

14 Thank you very much for your consideration  
15 and time.

16 MR. CAMERON: Okay. Thank you. Thank  
17 you, Dan. Maria? Maria Minno, is she --

18 MS. MINNO: That's me. Hi there. I'm  
19 Maria Minno. I'm a biologist, ecologist, and a health  
20 practitioner. I'm here because I'm a mother and a  
21 grandmother and I live downwind of this place. And  
22 Florida is my turf.

23 Nuclear energy is the most expensive  
24 energy, if all costs are accounted for. It's also the  
25 most toxic energy. People talk about coal having

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1 radioactive waste. Well, they're not counting the  
2 real radioactive waste that nuclear power plants  
3 produce.

4 This radioactive waste has very subtle,  
5 but frightening, health consequences. There are those  
6 pesky tritium leaks. And who's really looked at  
7 what's been in the air, except for maybe the tooth  
8 fairy study, where it correlated the amount of  
9 radioactive waste leaks in children's teeth to the  
10 rate of cancer.

11 Florida already has one of the highest  
12 rates of children's cancer in the entire nation. So,  
13 the environmental consequences of this nuclear power  
14 plant will not go away within a human time scale,  
15 because the radioactive wastes have a half life of  
16 thousands of years. In addition, there is no safe way  
17 to dispose of nuclear waste at this time.

18 I just wanted to mention something that  
19 these very smart scientists did when they were first  
20 blowing off the bombs. Testing the bombs with  
21 aboveground testing, they said, well, plutonium goes  
22 into bones in people, when they breathe it in or it  
23 gets in their food. But it kind of hasn't -- the body  
24 confuses it with calcium. But they said, it doesn't  
25 matter if the cows are feeding on pastures that are

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1 contaminated with plutonium from the waste because it  
2 will only get into their bones.

3 And guess what? Those brilliant  
4 scientists forgot that it also goes into the milk.  
5 So, ever since they've done the aboveground testing,  
6 our milk has been contaminated with plutonium, and we  
7 have, too.

8 And this has got to stop. Remember --  
9 remember Three Mile Island. I met a woman who'd been  
10 there. And her story was, the government told her it  
11 was safe when the leaks came out. They said, it's  
12 safe, fine. Don't take your child out of school.  
13 Don't get out of here. It's fine. And so, she had  
14 horrible exposure as a result of that.

15 Okay. Back to the environment. It's time  
16 to fill in and reclaim the Cross-Florida Barge Canal  
17 for the environment. But guess what? We'll be unable  
18 to do this with the new nuclear power plant sited on  
19 the edge of that Canal.

20 The impacts of the power plant will impact  
21 wetlands on the surface, the aquatic ecosystems, as  
22 well as our Florida aquifer underground. And I don't  
23 know if you know this, but we don't have enough water  
24 for our projected future. What's more important,  
25 water or power?

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1 And I have a question for the NRC. If the  
2 NRC is neutral, why does the NRC today sound to me  
3 like a PR firm for Progress Energy?

4 And why is the NRC so hot on growth in  
5 rural Florida?

6 I used to write environmental impact  
7 reports for the Corps of Engineers, and I know that  
8 you can't believe everything you see in them. Because  
9 basically, what gets published and what gets put out  
10 to the public is what not necessarily the people at  
11 the agency want to see put out, but what is  
12 politically correct.

13 I would like to ask the Corps of Engineers  
14 and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to revoke the  
15 preliminary permit, because we do not need more  
16 outmoded, dirty energy that will pollute the Earth for  
17 many, many generations.

18 I would also like to suggest a new model  
19 for Progress Energy. Progress Energy is able to meet  
20 today's energy needs at tomorrow's expense. Thank  
21 you.

22 MR. CAMERON: Okay. Thank you. Robert --  
23 Robert Fetrow? And then we're going to --

24 MR. FETROW: Fetrow.

25 MR. CAMERON: Oh, okay. Excuse me.

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1 Fetrow.

2 MR. FETROW: My name is Robert Fetrow.  
3 I'm a part time resident of Inglis, Florida. I'm a  
4 civil structural engineer. I'm probably one of the  
5 last persons to have built a nuclear power plant in  
6 Perry, Ohio in the early '80s.

7 Several years ago, over at the Armory,  
8 there was a meeting concerning the new nuclear power  
9 plant they were going to build in Levy County. At  
10 that meeting, I asked about a limited work  
11 authorization for this project, so this job -- this  
12 project could get started and put people to work.

13 In May of 2009, it was decided by the NRC  
14 not to issue an LWA until the construction operating  
15 permit. At the earliest received final approval, due  
16 to several environmental issues.

17 Since the environmental study and review  
18 has been completed, but the only formal board approval  
19 required, can the LWA be issued soon in order to get -  
20 - start some work? If approval is granted, it would  
21 be Progress Energy's decision at that point to start  
22 the project, rather than the federal government.

23 As we all are aware, we are in very poor  
24 times as far as jobs are concerned. Unemployment rate  
25 in the area ranges from 13.6 to 14.4 percent.

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1 Construction jobs are very badly needed in the area  
2 and it would help other small businesses associated  
3 with the project. Hopefully, by the starting this  
4 project as soon as possible, the recovery within the  
5 State can start. Let this be the starting point for  
6 this recovery in the State.

7 I have two possible environmental ideas,  
8 which I would like to suggest to Progress Energy. I  
9 would like to meet with someone at Progress Energy, a  
10 design representative, to take care of environmental  
11 issues that exist at this time. Thank you very much.

12 MR. CAMERON: Thank you, Mr. Fetrow.  
13 Sally? Sally Price?

14 MS. PRICE: Yes, sir. Give me one second.

15 MR. CAMERON: Oh, okay. Do you want me to  
16 give you a little more time and go to Mr. Garvin  
17 first?

18 MS. PRICE: If you wouldn't mind, that  
19 would be great.

20 MR. CAMERON: Okay. Mr. Garvin.

21 COURT REPORTER: I'm sorry. Could you  
22 state your name once more?

23 MR. GARVIN: Sure.

24 COURT REPORTER: Thank you.

25 MR. GARVIN: Yeah. Good afternoon. My

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1 name's Bill Garvin. I'm a permanent resident of  
2 Homosassa. And I do not deny that the way the world  
3 is growing, we're going to need more energy. I do not  
4 deny that we need jobs. But the problem I see is the  
5 cost of the energy and the cost of the jobs destroying  
6 our wetlands and taking our water. I'm sorry. I  
7 can't agree with it. Thank you.

8 MR. CAMERON: Thank you. Thank you, Mr.  
9 Garvin. This is Sally Price.

10 MS. PRICE: I guess I'm what a lot of  
11 you've been waiting on. I usually pull a few  
12 surprises and some people would like to walk out of  
13 here.

14 I'd like to say that the room is not  
15 totally packed today because somebody failed to send  
16 our Newscaster, the only local free paper that's  
17 distributed to 4,000 people locally, a notice of this  
18 meeting. I write for it and I just happened to get  
19 the notice yesterday in an e-mail.

20 I would like to say that I am pre-BC. I  
21 was before the Barge Canal and I'm pre-FPC. I was  
22 before Florida Power started the first plant out  
23 there.

24 Fifty years in Inglis and the only person  
25 in this room, I think, who's been fighting

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1 environmentally longer than me is Betty Berger. She's  
2 like my role model. But I don't come as organized as  
3 her, because I have 5,000 notes in my notes and I  
4 can't even read them.

5 I'm an environmental fighter. I was here  
6 when Highway 19 was two-lane. I've been a five time  
7 past president of the Florida Sheriff Youth Ranch Crew  
8 Camp Board of Associates. I'm president of the  
9 Chamber, the retired postmaster, the local newspaper  
10 writer, and a realtor who will not sell our area out.  
11 We all moved here for nature.

12 I want to speak on what Doug Bruner said  
13 when he said that he was here two years ago for a  
14 meeting and I spoke here. I'd like to recall that  
15 meeting and update you on a few things.

16 At that meeting, they asked for the County  
17 Commissioner from Levy County to come forward,  
18 introduce themselves. Sammy Yearty sat over on the  
19 end aisle, me right here, and he never came up. With  
20 him was Amanda Douglas and a realtor from Chiefland,  
21 Doug King, and Carol McQueen, the head of our Tourism  
22 Board.

23 Today, Sammy Yearty is serving 33 months  
24 in prison for accepting a bribe and lying to the FBI.  
25 Doug King, the Chiefland realtor, gave the most

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1 testimony in that [inaudible] Yearty trial that I went  
2 to. Amanda Douglas, the daughter of the Chiefland  
3 Police Department police chief, was our Echo  
4 Development Tourism Council person who has already  
5 been indicted for stealing almost \$40,000. She  
6 replaced Pam Blair, who was also indicted with Yearty  
7 and Parker, and for lying to the FBI and accepting a  
8 bribe.

9 Carol McQueen, the head of our Tourism  
10 Department, is also the boss of Amanda Douglas and so  
11 of Pam Blair. And she did not disclose to the County  
12 Commission, per the paper, for three months about the  
13 \$40,000 missing.

14 MR. CAMERON: Excuse me, Sally. Where is  
15 this going?

16 MS. PRICE: It's historically about how  
17 these people are the ones that you all came to for the  
18 permitting in the beginning. And I'm almost done with  
19 that. I'm fixing to get into the meat.

20 MR. CAMERON: Thank you.

21 MS. PRICE: Okay. I've been privileged to  
22 Levy County votes beforehand knowing how the  
23 commissions are going to vote. We have a commission  
24 right now that is -- with this next election, if one  
25 of our commissioners, who was appointed by the

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1 Governor with Ms. Marsha Drew, if he wins in the other  
2 district that he's running, we will have a Governor  
3 Crist-appointed commission. Three of the five will be  
4 running our County.

5 The people are unhappy with the  
6 preconstruction fee, in economic times when people are  
7 losing their homes and they're trying to put food on  
8 their table. And if the fact is that you all do not  
9 have to -- that Progress Energy does -- still gets to  
10 keep the money if the plants aren't built -- you know,  
11 I'll skip that part.

12 Okay. Our Public Service Commission has  
13 almost become a joke. Nancy Argentiana (ph), in the  
14 paper, said that yesterday. Okay. I better skip all  
15 that. I don't think you'd want to hear that either.  
16 Okay.

17 And in the town of Inglis, on Tuesday  
18 night, we're working on something where we're going to  
19 use a 1981 Amendment that was put into our thing to  
20 protect us from our town. We have the opportunity for  
21 the people to solve Inglis. So, what I want to say to  
22 you is, we have a County in turmoil. And even a --  
23 members of Citrus County on our team Levy, which we  
24 can't figure out.

25 Environmentally, this is not the right

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1 place to put this power plant. We are not -- let's  
2 see.

3 Why are you not already putting it on the  
4 Crystal River Nuclear Power Project property, where  
5 you have water, you have transmission lines?

6 The security is a major problem. How will  
7 you guard all four sides of it?

8 Public safety evacuation. We would be  
9 between two. If we get an alarm to leave, which way  
10 are we going to go? Most people are joking and saying  
11 they'll take a boat and head towards Mexico.

12 The aquifer is a great challenge. It's  
13 not just the power plant and the 22 million gallons of  
14 water from the rock mine up there we're worried about.  
15 But we have a horse hole mud bog that pumps out of two  
16 eight-inch pipes all day long. We have a shell  
17 factory that washes shells up there. We have  
18 agriculture with watermelon fields. So, we're really  
19 concerned about our water.

20 Also, I've seen a tornado go directly over  
21 the property where that Progress Energy entrance is up  
22 there.

23 We're concerned with sink holes.

24 When growth is down and the cost is up,  
25 and alternate energy is on the rise, there's just a

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1 lot of questions about why, with the natural gas line  
2 coming in, Williston converting over to solar power on  
3 their airport roofs, and Progress Energy sucking water  
4 from the Barge Canal, causing greater salt water  
5 intrusion.

6 Okay. I was going to say again, you need  
7 to notice: If the meeting had been advertised in our  
8 area, you would have seen a room full of people. The  
9 people in South Levy are concerned that we will be  
10 sold out, our security and way of life interrupted,  
11 and our safety compromised, and our aquifer and  
12 environmental changed forever.

13 I do not want to add -- I did want to add  
14 the fact that the word "mitigation" was used. And I've  
15 come to find that mitigation is almost like the word  
16 blackmail.

17 I would like to thank you for giving us  
18 the freedom to speak up here at these meetings, which  
19 is a right that has been denied to us in our Inglis  
20 meetings with the resolution they've made.

21 And I'm sorry my notes are so confused,  
22 but I made notes all during this that really made my  
23 notes hard to read. Thank you.

24 MR. CAMERON: Okay. Thank you, Sally.  
25 This is -- Sally was our last speaker for this

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1 afternoon. And we're going to be back tonight from  
2 6:00 to 7:00 open house and 7:00 to 10:00, and there  
3 will be more opportunities for people to speak.

4 And I know that the staff -- NRC staff and  
5 the Corps are going to speak to various people who  
6 have raised issues during this meeting, after the  
7 meeting.

8 I would like to go to Scott Flanders, the  
9 senior official to close the meeting for us.

10 MR. FLANDERS: Thanks, Chip. I just want  
11 to say that I thought this was a very productive  
12 meeting. We received a lot of good comments on the  
13 document.

14 And as we said earlier, we're an  
15 independent regulatory agency and our job is to ensure  
16 public health and safety, promote the common security  
17 and defense, and protect the environment. And in that  
18 -- with that as our mission, we're going to evaluate  
19 all the comments that we received today, make sure  
20 that our Environmental Impact Statement factually  
21 describes the impacts associated with the proposed  
22 project.

23 I'd also add that many of the questions we  
24 received today also deal with environmental issues.  
25 They also deal with some of those areas that we look

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1 at as part of our safety reviews, as Bob mentioned  
2 earlier in his presentation.

3 So, we have two parts for the review. We  
4 have a safety review and an environmental review.

5 And I would encourage you to, if you have  
6 the opportunity, to look at our website. There's a  
7 lot of important information as it relates to our  
8 safety review, as well as the regulations that govern  
9 our safety requirements, and guidance that we use to  
10 guide our safety review, as well. So, I think that's  
11 also important, as well as the environmental aspects,  
12 which are critically important, as well.

13 So, we're looking at it from a complete  
14 picture, we have the two reviews, and we're going to  
15 work them both in before making any decision as to  
16 whether or not we would authorize or grant the  
17 requested combined operating license.

18 So I encourage you, we have information in  
19 back, and if you have questions about how you can gain  
20 access to some of the information, we'll be around  
21 afterwards, certainly, to answer any of those  
22 questions.

23 So, with that I'll close the meeting, and  
24 I thank you again for your attendance. And,  
25 hopefully, we'll see some of you back this evening, as

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1 well.

2 MR. CAMERON: Okay. Thank you.

3 (At 4:06 p.m., meeting concluded.)

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