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NRC DEIS Hearing
PEF LNP 1 & 2
Crystal RIver, Florida
Plantation Inn
9/23/10

What About the Salt Drift?

The Levy Nuclear Plant (LNP) site is located approximately 10 miles inland and in the middle of a freshwater wetland yet the cooling towers' source will be salt water. This freshwater wetland is a recharge area for the drinking water for the people living in the surrounding area since the upper Floridan Aquifer is at ground level in this particular area of Florida. Despite this unique location, the introduction of salt via drift from the Levy Nuclear Plants' cooling towers to the environment, approximately 31 pounds of salt daily or 6.72 million pounds over the 60-year life of the two nuclear plants, is only assigned a *small impact* in Progress Energy's (PE) Draft Environmental Impact Study (DEIS).

When addressing the effect of salt drift in the Levy Nuclear Plant Draft Environmental Impact Study, vegetation comparisons with the Crystal River Nuclear Plant that is *located on the Gulf of Mexico* are made. The results of salt drift at this plant should not be equated with two nuclear plants located *10 miles inland in the middle of a aquifer recharge wetland.* A search for other U.S. nuclear plants located inland and using *salt* water for their cooling towers results in none.

Because of the unique circumstances of the Levy Nuclear Plants 1&2 location, scientific modeling must be arduously done to assure that drinking water and personal property and nearby conservation areas will not be adversely affected by the unnatural spreading of approximately 3,360 tons of salt by the cooling towers drift over a period of 60 years. The necessary modeling has not been done and the 'apples and oranges' comparison used in the Progress Energy Draft Environmental Impact Study is completely inadequate.

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