

October 11, 2010

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Chief, Rules and Directives Branch
Division of Administrative Services
Office of Administration
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Washington, D.C., 20555-0001

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RULES AND DIRECTIVES
BRANCH
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Attention: Douglas Bruner

RE: Levy County Nuclear Power Plant Limited Work Authorization


Dear Mr. Bruner:

At the present time, Levy County's current unemployment rate stands at 13.6%. In the surrounding area, Citrus County unemployment rate is a little better at 12.8%. While in Marion County, the recent unemployment rate stands at 14.4%. These high numbers are consistent within the entire State of Florida which is at a near historical record high rate of 14.0%. As we all know to change this trend requires generation of new construction jobs to help jump start the economic recovery for both Nature's Coast families and surrounding local small businesses.

At a public Nuclear Regulator Commission meeting nearly 2 years ago regarding the Levy County Nuclear Power Plant project, I asked a question relative to the timing of issuing a Limit Work Authorization (LWA) by the NRC. By the NRC issuing a LWA means Progress Energy can start limited construction activities for the nuclear power plants prior to the NRC issuing a Combined Operating License (COL). At that meeting the NRC stated that Progress Energy was working on submitting a request for a LWA at that time.

Than on May 1st, 2009, a press release was issued by Progress Energy stating the NRC would not be issuing a LWA but instead would not allow the start of construction until a Combined Operating License was approved. It is this writer's opinion that issuing of a COL will probably not happen until late 2011 or early 2012. Per this press release, this policy change was made due to several environmental issues addressed by citizen's group and the U.S. Corp of Engineers. Since that time, Progress Energy has continually submitted the requested environmental studies requested to help address these issues. Than on August 9th, 2010, the NRC issued a Draft Environmental Impact Statement which concluded that no environmental impacts were found during their review process which would stop them from issuing licenses to Progress Energy in the future for the two planned nuclear reactors in Levy County.

Therefore, I am writing this letter to reconsider issuing a Limited Work Authorization as soon as feasibly possible. As we all know, the present economic situation in Florida is quite bleak. Hopefully, allowing Progress Energy to start this large construction project, new jobs will be created and the long road to economic recovery in Florida can begin. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Fetrow, PE
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