



Crystal River Nuclear Plant  
Docket No. 50-302  
Operating License No. DPR-72

April 7, 2011  
3F0411-06

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Attn: Document Control Desk  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Subject: Crystal River Unit 3 – Sea Turtle Mortality Report

Dear Sir:

Florida Power Corporation (FPC), doing business as Progress Energy Florida, Inc., hereby provides a copy to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) of a sea turtle mortality report that was submitted to the U. S. National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). The report to the NMFS is required by NMFS's Crystal River – Unit 3 (CR-3) Biological Opinion, dated August 8, 2002, Terms and Conditions, Item 2. Reporting to the NRC is required by the CR-3 Operating License, Appendix B – Part II, Environmental Protection Plan (Non-Radiological) Technical Specifications, Section 4.0, Environmental Conditions, specifically, Section 4.2.3(b), NFMS Non-discretionary Terms and Conditions.

This letter establishes no new regulatory commitments.

If you have any questions regarding this submittal, please contact Mr. Jason Plumb, Supervisor, Environmental and Chemistry at (352) 563-2943, ext. 3466.

Sincerely,

Dan Westcott  
Superintendent, Licensing & Regulatory Programs  
Crystal River Nuclear Plant

DRW/ff

Attachment

xc: Regional Administrator, Region II  
Senior Resident Inspector  
NRR Project Manager

JE23  
NRR



April 7, 2011  
LRP11-0010

U.S. National Marine Fisheries Service  
South East Regional Office  
Attn: Assistant Regional Administrator  
Protected Resources Division  
263 13th Avenue, South  
Saint Petersburg, Florida 33701

Subject: Crystal River Unit 3 – Sea Turtle Mortality Report

Dear Sir:

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and the Crystal River Energy Complex (CREC) completed an Endangered Species Act Section 7 formal consultation process. In the Biological Opinion, issued August 8, 2002 by the NMFS, terms and conditions were included which required that if any listed species are apparently injured or killed in the CREC intake canal or the Crystal River Unit 3 (CR-3) bar racks, a report summarizing the incident must be provided to the NMFS within 30 days of the incident.

On March 18, 2011, a juvenile Kemp's ridley (*Lepidochelys kempii*) sea turtle was discovered on the CR-3 intake bar racks. The juvenile Kemp's ridley (weighing 1.90 kg) was recovered and resuscitation was attempted with no success. A necropsy was performed to assist in determining the cause of death.

The cause of death determination is based on the circumstances of discovery and presence of severe pulmonary edema, which is consistent with drowning. This turtle was in a thin nutritional condition, but had recently ingested blue crab. The cause of the diminished nutritional status was not apparent. Many of the other findings were relatively minor, including an isolated pulmonary granuloma, probable parasitic granulomas within the coelomic cavity, and moderate numbers of colonic nematodes, and are regarded as incidental. The hepatic and thymic atrophy reflect general condition. This turtle was recovered subsurface from the CR-3 intake bar racks. Froth was observed in the mouth during resuscitative measures and leads to the determination that the death should be classified as causally related to CR-3 operations.

Currently, this is the only causally-related mortality for CR-3 in 2011.

Progress Energy continues to implement the reasonable and prudent measures described in the current incidental take statement to minimize impacts on sea turtles from facility operations.

If you have any questions regarding this submittal, please contact Mr. Jason Plumb, Supervisor, Environmental and Chemistry at (352) 563-2943, ext. 3466.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'DR Westcott'.

Dan Westcott  
Superintendent, Licensing & Regulatory Programs  
Crystal River Nuclear Plant

DRW/ff

Progress Energy Florida, Inc.  
Crystal River Nuclear Plant  
15760 W. Power Line Street  
Crystal River, FL 34428