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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
263 13th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701-5505
(727) 824-5317; FAX 824-5300
http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov

July 25, 2011

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RECEIVED

Ms. Cindy Bladey, Chief Rules, Announcements and Directives Branch Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation Mail Stop O-11F1 Washington, D. C. 20555-0001

Dear Ms. Bladey,

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Southeast Region, Habitat Conservation Division, has reviewed your agency's Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants, Supplement 44, Regarding Crystal River Unit 3 Nuclear Generating Plant, dated June 1, 2011. The draft supplemental environmental impact statement has been prepared in response to an application submitted by Florida Power Corporation, doing business as Progress Energy Florida, Incorporated, to renew the operating license for the Crystal River Unit 3 Generating Plant for an additional 20 years in Citrus County, Florida.

Because of our agency's current staffing level, we are unable to adequately investigate the activity and, therefore, we can take no action on the draft supplemental environmental impact statement at this time. Therefore, it should be noted that our position is neither supportive of, nor in opposition to, the proposed relicensing activities.

Please be advised that the project area is within the known distribution limits of a federally listed threatened species under purview of NMFS. In accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, it is your responsibility to review this proposal and identify actions that may affect endangered or threatened species. Determinations involving listed species should be reported to our Protected Resources Division at the letterhead address. If it is determined that the activities may adversely affect any species listed as endangered or threatened under Protected Resources Division purview, formal consultation must be initiated.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments. If you have questions regarding NMFS' review of this project, please contact Mr. Mark Sramek at the letterhead address, by telephone at (727) 824-5311, or e-mail at Mark.Sramek@noaa.gov.

Sincerely,

Virginia M. Fay

Acting Assistant Regional Administrator

Habitat Conservation Division

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SUNSI Review Complète
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