

PMTurkeyCOLPEM Resource

From: Kugler, Andrew
Sent: Monday, November 21, 2011 7:46 AM
To: jmorganj@sfwmd.gov
Cc: TurkeyCOL Resource; Williamson, Alicia; Bryce, Robert W; Haque, Mohammad; Willingham, Michael
Subject: Water Availability at FPL Alternative Sites

John,

As we discussed on the phone, the NRC staff is evaluating a group of alternative sites that FPL considered in its application for a combined license to build two new nuclear plants at the Turkey Point site. Three of the sites (Glades, Martin, and Okeechobee) are inland, generally around the periphery of Lake Okeechobee. The Glades site is about 2 miles west of Moore Haven, the (existing) Martin site is about 7 miles northwest of Indiantown, and the Okeechobee site is about 8 miles west of the town of Okeechobee. (Application Environmental Report (ER), Sections 9.3.3.1, 9.3.3.2, and 9.3.3.3) All of the sites are within the boundaries managed by the SFWMD. The purpose of this email is to ask the SFWMD for its view on the availability of water for these sites.

As part of our review of the application, we must determine that the alternative sites would be viable for the construction and operation of the proposed units. One part of deciding whether a site is viable is a determination that there is "reasonable assurance that permits for consumptive use of water in the quantities needed for a nuclear power plant of the stated approximate capacity and type of cooling system can be obtained by the applicant from the appropriate State, local, or regional agency." (U.S. NRC Regulatory Guide 4.7, Section C.7)

The consumptive water usage for two new plants would be approximately 100 cfs. (Application ER, Section 9.3.3.1.3) For the three inland sites, FPL proposed to use either surface water (from Lake Okeechobee, or nearby rivers/canals) or groundwater (from the middle Floridan aquifer).

The NRC staff recognizes that, because of the nature of an alternative site evaluation, the SFWMD does not have before it any formal request from FPL regarding water use for these sites. But SFWMD is the agency that regulates water use from the proposed sources, and is the most knowledgeable of water availability in the region. Therefore, the NRC staff requests the insights of the SFWMD regarding the availability of water at these alternative sites. Specifically, in the view of the SFWMD, would it be likely that an applicant could obtain permits to consume 100 cfs of either surface water or water from the middle Floridan aquifer at each of these sites? If the answer is "no" for either source at any site, could you briefly indicate the reason for the negative answer?

The information you provide will assist the NRC staff in its evaluation of the alternative sites for the environmental impact statement associated with the combined license application for Turkey Point Units 6 and 7.

Your help in this regard is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact me (information below) or Alicia Williamson (Alicia.williamson@nrc.gov, 301-415-1878).

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