

## TurkeyPointCEm Resource

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**From:** Ruth Trencher [trencher3380@bellsouth.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 07, 2015 5:37 PM  
**To:** TurkeyPointCOLEIS Resource  
**Subject:** Turkey Point

Ladies & Gentlemen:

I understand that you will be making a decision on Florida Power and Light's proposed building of two new nuclear reactors at their Turkey Point facility.

I am very much opposed to this action, as is the majority of the populace in South Florida! The existing reactors at Turkey Point are aging, and have been questionably managed and maintained. Time and time again, they have bent and outright broken regulations and have put the local community at risk! Their cooling mechanism, a series of manmade waterways, is overgrown with algae or similar organism, causing significant overheating of the water. They have demanded a new ongoing source of water from our local aquifer to reduce the temperature. We are, as the result of their actions, facing a huge plume of salt water intruding into the fresh water supply, contaminating many wells used by other entities for other purposes. We are already facing problems created by the existing nuclear reactors. Please do not increase the drain on our limited water supply by allowing FPL to create two new reactors.

As I understand it, FPL does not need these reactors for current use, but is planning for the future. Currently, I believe, they are intending to sell the excess power to more northerly climes. They have invested very little into solar energy or other renewable sources of energy, sources that do not have the potential problems of a nuclear facility; storage of waste, leakage, breakdown of various elements of the system. (FPL does not encourage the use of solar power on homes and businesses, and, together with Duke Energy, has convinced the Florida legislature to make it **illegal** to sell excess power created through solar collectors.

The current reactors and the proposed two new reactors are located along the south east Florida coast on low lying land. We are already actively seeing the effects of sea rise; the city of Miami Beach, some 10-15 miles from the plant, has been suffering from flooding during high tides, and is spending millions of dollars installing huge pumps to move the water back into the sea. Nuclear reactors should not be built on the coast, an location threatened by sea rise, an area mere feet above current sea level (Miami Dade County has a maximum height of 13.5 feet above sea level). The area is also very susceptible to the threats of hurricanes. Hurricane Andrew, which hit two decades ago, was a small intense storm. Its full force did not effect Turkey point. Its 200+ mph winds totally destroyed the area a few miles to the north. Had it hit Turkey Point directly, the consequences could have been devastating and irreversible to our entire community.

Florida Power & Light plans to erect a series of huge concrete light poles each more than 100 feet tall, with a 35 square foot footprint. These concrete structures are intended to carry the energy created by the new reactors north so the energy can, for the near future at least, be sold. FPL would like to run its gigantic poles through our national park, the Everglades! This would have a huge impact on this national treasure and severely impact the plants and animals in the park., Local cities, as well as citizen groups, have protested the erection of these towers, asking instead that the lines be buried. FPL says it will consider burial only if the local communities provide the money. Although the power is not intended for the citizens in these cities and the towers provide no benefits to the community, they want us to pay to have the lines buried! Their plan is to run the power towers parallel to US 1, a major thoroughfare for our residents. First, it would run north on the west side of US 1, totally destroying the value of homes nearby. It would continue north, running by the Metrorail, our local mass transit system, a narrow strip of land currently a bicycle path and planned as an urban linear park.

Florida Power & Light is a monopoly, but is intended to serve the public. FPL has not been responsive to the needs and concerns of our community, instead, has chosen to bulldoze their way through our community in their effort to maximize their profits at our expense.

Please consider these statements before you meet to decide later this month on whether to allow FPL to proceed on its path to build two new nuclear power plants in our community.

Sincerely,

Ruth Trencher

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