

TurkeyPointCEm Resource

From: T Z [tanja.zerulla@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 07, 2015 8:21 PM
To: TurkeyPointCOLEIS Resource
Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Turkey Point nuclear reactors by FPL

To whom it may concern:

I only moved to Florida less than a year ago. In my time in Miami, I have visited multiple national parks and witnessed the beauty of the Florida coastline. In fact, the proximity to the Everglades and coastal habitats drew me to Florida to pursue graduate research in biology.

I was deeply saddened to learn that Florida still relies on antiquated energy solutions. Instead of promoting more environmentally-friendly energy sources, the government seems to be pandering to a company that's main goal is to make money - a goal which does not include caring about the people or environment of Florida. Why, then, are we allowing them so much power in the decision of our energy future? Since Florida is the "Sunshine State," I was shocked when I came to Miami and hardly any houses had been outfitted with solar panels. In fact, FPL is actively campaigning against solar power because they know that it provides cleaner and cheaper energy to the consumer.

Florida is one of the only places in the world where you can see climate change in effect. Why, then, are we building nuclear reactors in an environmentally sensitive location? I haven't forgotten the tsunami that destroyed Fukushima. Recently, a robot sent into that nuclear reactor was destroyed in 10 minutes. Since Florida is an epicentre of hurricanes, tropical storms, and sea level rise, it seems absolutely ridiculous to even consider putting a nuclear reactor here - especially given FPL's outdated and misguided plans. I only foresee disaster within the time that it is here. Furthermore, nuclear reactors are known to impact wildlife in the region. Discharged hot water from cooling systems is known to affect fish reproduction and development. Metals leach from the reactors into the environment, contaminating air, water, ground, plants, and other wildlife. We are a state that prides itself on environmental protection of our coastlines and Everglades and we cannot ignore that these nuclear reactors will affect our environment, especially in ways we cannot yet predict. A precautionary measure to prevent harm would be better than to blindly go forward and say "oops" when we realize what's happened.

I suggest that instead of allowing a company to charge me more for electricity and the building of nuclear reactors that I don't even want, the government seriously reconsiders policies on energy to keep up on the times. Models can be found all around the world, including Germany which currently subsidizes cleaner energy initiatives, allowing them to become the forerunners of innovation and manufacturing in cleaner energy. When these antiquated energy sources run out, they'll be selling us the equipment to change our state. Why can't Florida become the centre of clean energy technologies? Why do we have to pander to a for-profit company?

In summary, I believe that the proposed installation of nuclear reactors at Turkey Point has not considered current climate change science, alternative energy sources for Florida, and proper safety precautions.

Sincerely,

Tanja Zerulla

Federal Register Notice: 80FR12043
Comment Number: 136

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Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Turkey Point nuclear reactors by FPL
Sent Date: 5/7/2015 8:21:26 PM
Received Date: 5/7/2015 8:21:30 PM
From: T Z

Created By: tanja.zerulla@gmail.com

Recipients:
"TurkeyPointCOLEIS Resource" <TurkeyPointCOLEIS.Resource@nrc.gov>
Tracking Status: None

Post Office: mail.gmail.com

Files	Size	Date & Time
MESSAGE	3098	5/7/2015 8:21:30 PM

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