

TurkeyPointCEm Resource

From: Sam Van Leer [sam@urban-paradise.org]
Sent: Friday, May 22, 2015 2:37 PM
To: TurkeyPointCOLEIS Resource
Subject: FPL Turkey Point Nuclear Expansion is a horrible idea on so many levels...

Ladies and Gentlemen -

Instead of considering expansion of this dysfunctional and dangerous facility, we should be considering how soon the existing reactors can be dismantled.

Building the reactors in a hurricane flood zone was unsafe, and just plain stupid in the first place. This common sense has been confirmed by the NRC's own findings after Hurricane Andrew, which knocked out all or part of its safety, power, access, security and fire-fighting capacities... for 5 days.

existing nuclear power reactors at Turkey Point have already exceeded the carrying capacity of the existing water resources, and have become dysfunctional. When power output was increased, algae bloom followed. Now FPL is pumping toxins in to control it. The cooling canals have led to salt intrusion into our aquifer - our fresh water supply.

Hypersaline water is being discharged into the waters and mangrove swamps of Biscayne National Park and the Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserve. Everglades National Park is just a few miles away.

Had an additional threat emerged, we could have had a Fukushima-level event in a densely populated American city. With the whole community reeling from massive infrastructure, transportation and communication damage from the Hurricane, rapid evacuation would have been impossible. I was here, I know what South Dade was like, and it was worse than a war zone.

As Sea-Level Rise (SLR) progresses, these problems will only get worse. There will be more salt intrusion into the aquifer, more hypersaline water, more algae bloom, and more toxic chemicals.

Some people consider Hurricane Andrew to be a Category 6 for its power (the conventional scale tops out at Cat 5). It spawned many tornadoes, with wind-speeds that were in addition to the Hurricane's. Many climate scientists to be growing in strength, and perhaps in frequency. Numerous records have been broken in the past decade. Hurricane Storm-Surge will be boosted to higher levels by SLR with each passing year.

Proponents of FPL's new nukes claim that expansion is safe, and that every eventuality has been considered and planned for. I must point out that the TEPCO must have made the same claims while seeking approval of Fukushima.

By building massive power plants at one spot, FPL must then distribute that power. They want to build massive transmission lines through the Everglades, and along Miami's iconic South Dixie Highway.

As I understand it, the towers for these lines are not capable of surviving a Cat 5, much less the tornadoes that we might also expect.

If the power plants are being put in to serve public, yet transmission is unsafe, who does this really serve?

If we have learned anything in Miami from Andrew, we have learned this:

Don't plan for the good days, when everything is perfect.

Don't plan for the bad days, when the excrement hits the fan and you get a little splattered.

Plan for hell on earth, because worst-case scenarios happen, and they are worse than you expect.

The reality is that by building nuclear reactors in "Hurricane Alley", under conditions of Sea-Level Rise exposes both the reactors and the surrounding residents to risks that can not be fully anticipated.

FPL is essentially playing Russian Roulette with our community's very existence.

If only there was a viable alternative to nuclear power...

Oh, that's right, there are many alternatives.

Now, we must also consider the alternatives that exist, and FPL's role in preventing their implementation.

We are the sunshine state, and Solar infrastructure gets cheaper every year, yet we have minimal Solar PV Power (cloudy Germany is shutting down coal and nuclear plants).

We have the Gulf Stream right off shore, yet we're only beginning to "study" current and wave power generation (while Brazil, Holland and Australia have installed operational power plants).

We have no shortage of wind (and wind farms are sprouting up in many parts of the USA).

By having power generation distributed near points of demand, massive transmission lines are not needed. Solar roofs would feed residential and commercial needs, with peak power occurring with peak demand, when the heat of the day increases air conditioning loads.

Current generators could be installed off Miami Beach, providing for the demands of resorts, hotels and restaurants. The party never stops? No problem, the Gulf Stream flows 24/7.

Why are these solutions not being implemented?

FPL has virtually blocked residential rooftop solar by manipulating regulatory mechanisms of government. This monopoly has bullied us all. Their only concern is profit, so they buy the influence that guarantees their revenue.

FPL and other power monopolies have exerted massive force, using \$millions to ensure that the Public Service Commission (PSC) and other levels of government are populated by those who **put corporate profits first, and public safety and benefit last.**

FPL has been granted authority by the PSC to impose fees for Nuclear Power on every user account. This public money will be used to expand Turkey Point.

Instead, the money should be either refunded to the people who paid it, or used by others to research or install alternative energy.

I have spoken to many in the community, and can say that only one out of hundreds is in favor of more Nukes. In conversations with elected officials, they are unanimous in their opposition.

In the final analysis:

Expanding the Turkey Point Nukes serves only FPL's corporate shareholders.

It exposes the surrounding communities to a mind-numbing level of risk.

We are literally paying the price to endanger our whole future.

Please don't approve expansion.

Sincerely,

Sam Van Leer

President & Founder
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"Creating Sustainable Paradise, One Habitat at a Time."

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Federal Register Notice: 80FR12043
Comment Number: 1397

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Subject: FPL Turkey Point Nuclear Expansion is a horrible idea on so many levels...
Sent Date: 5/22/2015 2:36:40 PM
Received Date: 5/22/2015 2:36:42 PM
From: Sam Van Leer

Created By: sam@urban-paradise.org

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

Post Office: mail.gmail.com

Files	Size	Date & Time
MESSAGE	6465	5/22/2015 2:36:42 PM

Options
Priority: Standard
Return Notification: No
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Sensitivity: Normal
Expiration Date:
Recipients Received: