

TurkeyPointCEm Resource

From: National Parks Conservation Association [npca@npca.org] on behalf of Sarah Mckee [npca@npca.org]
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2015 6:45 PM
To: TurkeyPointCOLEIS Resource
Subject: I Oppose the Proposed Expansion of Turkey Point, Docket ID: NRC-2009-0337

May 15, 2015

Chief Cindy Bladley

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Office of Administration, OWFN 12
H8
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Chief Bladley,

This concerns Docket ID: NRC-2009-0337.

I oppose the proposed expansion of Turkey Point Power Plant, located in Homestead, Florida.

The proposed site is located directly on the shores of Biscayne National Park, in an area that is extremely susceptible to sea level rise and the impacts of climate change.

The expansion of Turkey Point could have serious environmental impacts on sensitive ecological habitat and the health and sustainability of limited freshwater resources.

Just think of what happened this past week at Indian Point. Did New York City narrowly escape nuclear disaster?

Like so many Americans, I am committed to protecting the National Park System, which preserves our country's incredible array of landscapes, waters, wildlife, and opportunities for exploration.

Biscayne National Park is an irreplaceable national treasure that safeguards precious natural resources and recreational opportunities.

According to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's own regulations, "sites adjacent to lands devoted to public use may be considered unsuitable," and unacceptable impacts are "most apt to arise in areas adjacent to natural-resource-oriented areas."

This strongly suggests that any expansion at Turkey Point would be arbitrary, capricious, and an abuse of discretion in violation of the Administrative Procedure Act.

Within six miles of the proposed expansion site, moreover, there are two national parks, an aquatic preserve, a national wildlife refuge, and a wetland habitat preserve. According to the NRC's own guidelines, the expansion of Turkey Point could have unacceptable and irreversible impacts on these treasured sites.

In fact, why is there even a Turkey Point power plant there in the first place?

Operating two new reactors at Turkey Point could also have huge impacts on the quantity and quality of precious freshwater resources.

The withdrawal of massive amounts of water from under Biscayne Bay as back-up cooling water could increase salinity levels within the Bay and hasten saltwater intrusion into our limited freshwater supplies.

Furthermore, expanding a nuclear power plant in an area that is ground zero for sea level rise threatens the future of South Florida. I have visited friends who lived a few blocks from Tampa Bay and thought it an extremely risky place to be. You might remember Fukushima, as well.

The proposed Turkey Point expansion's potentially widespread negative environmental and public health and safety impacts, and the serious threats it poses to Biscayne National Park, mandate its denial.

Sincerely,

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