

TurkeyPointCEm Resource

From: National Parks Conservation Association [npca@npca.org] on behalf of Eric West [npca@npca.org]
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2015 10:15 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,

Just remember, that the operators of Turkey Point, the way it is already, have so underdesigned the cooling systems that they had to get a waiver to degrade even more of the aquifer and Biscayne Bay by pumping even more water, and now, they want this exception that was granted to be permanent! This place should be closed, not expanded.

I am writing in reference to Docket ID: NRC-2009-0337 to express my opposition to the proposed expansion of Turkey Point Power Plant, located in Homestead, Florida. The site proposed for expansion 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.

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

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 strongly oppose the expansion of Turkey Point as proposed due to the project's potentially widespread negative environmental and public health and safety impacts and the serious threats it poses to Biscayne National Park.

Thank you for considering my request.

Sincerely,

Mr. Eric West

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Port Orange, FL 32127-6515

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