

TurkeyPointCEm Resource

From: Alejandro Almirola [aalmi002@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2015 7:56 PM
To: TurkeyPointCOLEIS Resource; clerk@psc.state.fl.us
Cc: Victoria Mendez; tregalado@miami.gov.com; fcarollooffice@miamigov.com; fsuarez@miamigov.com; wgort@miamigov.com; msarnoff@miamigov.com; khardemon@miamigov.com; info@josejavier2014.com
Subject: Objection to FP&L's Plan to Place Huge High Voltage Lines on Poles On or Near SW 1st Avenue in the "Miami Roads" Area

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.

As a lifelong resident of Miami and the Roads Neighborhood, only 25 miles north of Turkey Point, I vehemently oppose the construction and further expansion of this nuclear plant with two more reactors. I do not want to have the next "Fukushima" or "Chernobyl" on my doorsteps! As I stated in last month's NRC meeting in Miami at FIU, it's just a bad idea waiting to happen.

First of all, the integrity of the the drinking water will be further at stake since Florida Power & Light (FP&L) would use our drinking water to cool its power plants, which would lead to further saltwater intrusion into the Biscayne Aquifer, the main source of drinking water for this area. FP&L also plans to curtail its current monitoring program for this, which is totally unacceptable.

Second, our area may need more electricity, but there is no present or foreseeable crisis that exists. Therefore, a better thought out and ecologically sensitive plan for electricity should be on the drawing boards for our area including, but not limited to: solar, wind, water currents, etc.

Third, with regards to the placement of the huge transmission lines that would be transporting the electricity from the proposed reactors, there are other sites where high voltage poles can be placed that would cause less impact than placement so close to a historically significant neighborhood as the Miami Roads neighborhood where I live. The placement of these poles and lines are not even in sync with the presently existing criteria governing their building or placement. Furthermore, I'm concerned about the hazards of 100 foot high electric poles that are within 50 feet of our homes and, in a hurricane or tornado could cause massive damage, including toppling onto rooftops and causing fires.

Fourth, I'm concerned as well about the health and well being of individuals, including children who live close to the lines as I believe that there is the potential of cancer from these high voltage power lines. Whether you believe there this or is not such a danger, it has not yet been sufficiently negated by any study that I have read, and you should err towards caution as opposed to err towards risk. Also, the people who traverse the area regularly (as there is a bike path/walking path adjacent to SW 1st Avenue) would also be placed at risk.

Fifth, I am also concerned about the loss of value of our homes due to the close proximity of these liens through our

neighborhood. Should these lines be placed in the neighborhood, they should be buried underground to a level that will not pose a hazard to the neighborhood or those traversing the area.

Finally, I think it's plainly stupid for FP&L and the US NRC to even be thinking about this since we shouldn't be further investing in a "dying" industry that's simply outdated and too expensive to fund with only government subsidies making it somewhat viable. Also, it's ludicrous to expand this power plant with such ecologically sensitive ecosystems nearby plus the huge drain on our water supply that would inevitably result from the expansion. Instead, we really need to practice more energy conservation and embrace renewable forms of energy especially solar energy in the Sunshine State.

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.

Federal Register Notice: 80FR12043
Comment Number: 8622

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From: Alejandro Almirola

Created By: aalmi002@yahoo.com

Recipients:

"Victoria Mendez" <victoriamendez@aol.com>
Tracking Status: None
"tregalado@miami.gov.com" <tregalado@miami.gov.com>
Tracking Status: None
"fcarollooffice@miamigov.com" <fcarollooffice@miamigov.com>
Tracking Status: None
"fsuarez@miamigov.com" <fsuarez@miamigov.com>
Tracking Status: None
"wgort@miamigov.com" <wgort@miamigov.com>
Tracking Status: None
"msarnoff@miamigov.com" <msarnoff@miamigov.com>
Tracking Status: None
"khardemon@miamigov.com" <khardemon@miamigov.com>
Tracking Status: None
"info@josejavier2014.com" <info@josejavier2014.com>
Tracking Status: None
"TurkeyPointCOLEIS Resource" <TurkeyPointCOLEIS.Resource@nrc.gov>
Tracking Status: None
"clerk@psc.state.fl.us" <clerk@psc.state.fl.us>
Tracking Status: None

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