



August 11, 2016

L-2016-153  
10 CFR 50.90

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Attn: Document Control Desk  
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Re: St. Lucie Units 1 and 2  
Docket Nos. 50-335 and 50-389  
Response to Request for Additional Information Regarding License Amendment  
Request for Biological Opinion License Changes

References:

1. NRC letter dated April 7, 2016: Transmittal of National Marine Fisheries Service's March 24, 2016, Final Biological Opinion for St. Lucie Plant, Units 1 and 2
2. FPL letter L-2016-072 dated April 29, 2016: License Amendment Request to Update Appendix B to the Renewed Facility Operating Licenses to Incorporate the 2016 Biological Opinion
3. NRC email dated June 28, 2016: Request for Additional Information - St. Lucie March 2016 Biological Opinion LAR - MF7661/MF7662

Per Reference 2 above, Florida Power and Light Company (FPL) requested an amendment to the Renewed Facility Operating License (RFOL) for St. Lucie Units 1 and 2. The License Amendment Request (LAR) proposed changes to the Unit 1 and Unit 2 Environmental Protection Plans (EPP) Section 4.2 to incorporate the revised terms and conditions (T&Cs) of the Incidental Take Statement (ITS) included in the currently applicable Biological Opinion (Reference 1) issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on March 24, 2016.

By email dated June 28, 2016 (Reference 3), the NRC Staff requested additional information and clarification to complete its review of the LAR. The enclosure to this letter provides the detailed response to the request for additional information.

The information provided in this submittal does not impact the 10 CFR 50.92 evaluation of "No Significant Hazards Consideration" previously provided in FPL letter L-2016-072. This letter makes no new commitments or changes to existing commitments.

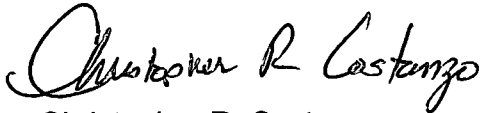
ADD1  
NRR

If you should have any questions regarding this application, please contact Michael Snyder, Licensing Manager, at 772-467-7036.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on August 11, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher R. Costanzo  
Site Vice President  
St. Lucie Plant

CRC/rcs

Enclosure: St. Lucie 2016 Biological Opinion LAR RAI Response

cc: Ms. Cindy Becker, Florida Department of Health  
USNRC Regional Administrator, Region II  
NRC Project Manager  
USNRC Senior Resident Inspector, St. Lucie Units 1 and 2

**Enclosure**  
**St. Lucie 2016 Biological Opinion LAR RAI Response**

Response to Request for Additional Information Regarding License Amendment  
Request for Biological Opinion License Changes

**Background**

As part of its National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review, the NRC staff must evaluate both the direct and indirect impacts of the proposed amendments. One potential indirect impact of the proposed amendments is that FPL will design, test, construct, and implement turtle excluder devices for the St. Lucie intake pipe velocity caps in accordance with Term and Condition 1 of Reasonable and Prudent Measure 1 of the National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) March 24, 2016, biological opinion (Reference 1: ADAMS Accession No. ML16084A616). The following RAIs are related to the implementation of the excluder devices in order to assist the NRC staff in assessing the environmental impacts of the proposed amendments:

RAI-MF7661/2-RERP-01  
RAI-MF7661/2-RERP-02  
RAI-MF7661/2-RERP-03  
RAI-MF7661/2-RERP-04

**RAI-MF7661/2-RERP-01:**

Describe the potential non-radiological environmental impacts of testing, constructing, and implementing the excluder devices. Include such potential impacts as those to water resources during testing and constructing, such as any disruption or other impacts to aquatic biota and habitats due to possible sediment disturbance and turbidity, and disruption to land or terrestrial biota and habitat, and the effects of air emissions for construction equipment.

**FPL Response:**

The excluder devices will be installed within the boundaries of the existing concrete velocity cap structures located approximately 1500 feet offshore. No dredging, sediment disturbance, or construction on the ocean floor in the area around the velocity cap will be required. Some localized cleaning to remove marine growth on the concrete surfaces of the velocity cap may be required for the attachment of the excluder devices to the velocity caps. There is a potential for some turbidity caused by the removal of the marine growth that will be controlled and monitored in accordance with environmental permit requirements. The excluder devices will be prefabricated off-site, and will only require limited construction equipment for the cleaning and attachment of the excluder device to the velocity cap structure. Outside of the minor marine growth removal, there is no anticipated disruption to land or terrestrial biota and habitat.

**RAI-MF7661/2-RERP-02:**

List and describe any State or Federal permits that will be required to test or construct the excluder devices.

**FPL Response:**

1. National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) biological opinion pursuant to section 7(a)(2) and the conservation review pursuant to section 7(a)(1) of the Endangered Species Act, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1536(a)(2)), Dated March 24, 2016.
2. Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission marine turtle permit (MTP-16-125) includes provision for the testing of the excluder device.
3. After the completion of design and testing and prior to construction, additional Federal and State permits will be requested to support installation of the excluder. These are expected to include a US Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit (NWP) Number 3 and Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Environmental Resource Permit.

**RAI-MF7661/2-RERP-03:**

Will the testing or construction of the excluder devices require any physical changes to systems, structures, or components intended for the prevention of accidents? If so, please describe these changes.

**FPL Response:**

No. The excluder devices will be attached to the Ocean Intake Velocity Caps which are part of the Ocean Intake Cooling Water System. The velocity caps and associated functions are Not Safety Related (NSR).

**RAI-MF7661/2-RERP-04:**

Will any aspects of the testing or construction of the excluder devices require NRC approval? If so, please explain.

**FPL Response:**

The 2016 Biological Opinion (Reference 1) includes a requirement for FPL to consult and coordinate with the NMFS and NRC on the designs and test results before beginning inwater construction. The design for the excluder devices requires NMFS approval before installation at the velocity caps.

Beyond the consultation and coordination required by the 2016 Biological Opinion, it is not anticipated that prior NRC approval will be required for any aspects of the testing or construction of the excluder devices. The proposed plant change to add turtle excluder devices to the Ocean Intake Velocity Caps will be processed in accordance with 10 CFR 50.59 (Changes, tests and experiments) and 10 CFR 72.48 (independent spent fuel storage installation - Changes, tests, and experiments) requirements. If during the completion of the design and testing of the excluder device it is determined that prior NRC approval is required, a license amendment will be requested under 10 CFR 50.90 (Application for amendment of license, construction permit, or early site permit).