October 28, 2016

Dr. Paul Backhouse Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Seminole Tribe of Florida 30290 Josie Billie Highway Clewiston, FL 33440

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABLITIY OF THE ISSUANCE OF THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR TURKEY POINT NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 6 AND 7 COMBINED LICENSE APPLICATION

Dear Dr. Backhouse:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has completed NUREG-2176, "Environmental Impact Statement for Combined Licenses (COLs) for Turkey Point Nuclear Plant, Units 6 and 7, Final Report." The final environmental impact statement (EIS) focuses on the impacts of constructing and operating two new nuclear units at the Turkey Point site. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Jacksonville District, and the National Park Service (NPS) are cooperating agencies on the final EIS. USACE is a cooperating agency with the NRC for the purpose of complying with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA), and is the lead agency for the National Historic Preservation Act, of 1966, as amended, Section 106 consultation process. The NPS's participation in preparing this EIS was primarily centered on data gathering and information sharing regarding the environment in and around the applicable national parks, and does not imply NPS concurrence. Therefore, impact determinations made in this EIS should not be attributed to NPS, but only to the NRC and USACE (also referred to as the "review team").

A notice of availability of the final EIS is anticipated to be published by the NRC on November 4, 2016, in the *Federal Register*. A copy of the final EIS is included with this letter. In addition, the final EIS is available for public inspection at the NRC Public Document Room, located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, First Floor, Rockville, Maryland, 20852, and from the publicly available records component of the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access Management System (ADAMS) under Accession Nos. ML16300A104, ML16300A137, ML16301A018, and ML16300A312. The final EIS is also available directly on the NRC website at http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactors/col/turkey-point.html.

As discussed in the final EIS, the NRC staff's recommendation related to the environmental aspects of the proposed action is that the COLs should be issued. This recommendation is based on: (1) the environmental report (ER) submitted by FPL, as revised; (2) consultation with Federal, State, Tribal and local agencies; (3) the NRC staff's independent review; (4) the NRC staff's consideration of comments received during the environmental review; and (5) the assessments summarized in the final EIS, including the potential mitigation measures identified in the ER and in the final EIS. In addition, in making its recommendation, the NRC staff has concluded that there are no environmentally preferable or obviously superior sites in the region of interest.

P. Backhouse

Please note that the publication of the final EIS does not affect the ongoing consultation with the USACE for the transmission line corridors. If you have any questions and require additional information, please contact Ms. Alicia Williamson, Environmental Project Manager, at (301) 415-1878 or via e-mail to <u>Alicia.Williamson@nrc.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Dr. Allen Fetter, Acting Chief Environmental Projects Branch Division of New Reactor Licensing Office of New Reactors

Docket Nos. 52-040 and 52-041

Enclosure: NUREG-2176

cc: See next page

P. Backhouse

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Sincerely,

/**RA**/

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Docket Nos. 52-040 and 52-041

Enclosure: NUREG-2176

cc: See next page

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