

From: [Wong, Melanie](#)
To: [Shelley Norton - NOAA Federal](#)
Subject: RE: St. Lucie Nuclear Power Plant draft biological Opinion
Date: Wednesday, December 12, 2012 8:01:28 AM

Many thanks!

Best regards,
Melanie

From: Shelley Norton - NOAA Federal [mailto:shelley.norton@noaa.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, December 12, 2012 8:01 AM
To: Wong, Melanie
Cc: Logan, Dennis
Subject: Re: St. Lucie Nuclear Power Plant draft biological Opinion

(b)6
Hi Melanie and Dennis, the conference call-in number is [REDACTED] and Passcode is [REDACTED]

Thanks,
Shelley

On Wed, Dec 12, 2012 at 7:52 AM, Wong, Melanie <Melanie.Wong@nrc.gov> wrote:
When: Friday, December 14, 2012 10:30 AM-11:00 AM (GMT-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).
Where: NRC to call [\(727\) 551-5781](tel:(727)551-5781)

Note: The GMT offset above does not reflect daylight saving time adjustments.

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On Tue, Dec 11, 2012 at 8:14 AM, Wong, Melanie <Melanie.Wong@nrc.gov> wrote:
Dear Ms. Norton and Ms. Bolden,

I am the new Chief of the Environmental Review and Guidance Update Branch (RERB). As you may be aware based on interactions with Dennis and Briana, our branch performs, among other things, work related to the Endangered Species Act (ESA) during the regulatory review of nuclear power plants.

I am writing to you regarding the delay of the draft biological opinion from the consultation that we reinitiated with NMFS in 2005 and 2006 for the St. Lucie Nuclear Power Plant in Florida.

Both the NRC and the licensee, Florida Power and Light (FPL), have been waiting for the draft biological opinion on sea turtles and smalltooth sawfish. A take of a smalltooth sawfish at the St. Lucie Nuclear Power Plant in May of 2005 resulted in

the NRC requesting reinitiation of Section 7 consultation. In addition, when the plant exceeded the annual incidental take limit for sea turtles in 2006, sea turtles were added to the consultation. Although FPL initiated some of the projects that they and the NRC understood would be required in the biological opinion, because of the delay, FPL has terminated that work until they receive the new biological opinion from NMFS.

Both the NRC and FPL are committed to cooperating with NMFS in protecting endangered species under the ESA. We would greatly appreciate it if you could please let us know when the biological opinion would be finalized.

Would it be possible for me to give you a call this week to discuss further?

Thank you for your kind consideration.

Sincerely,
Melanie

Melanie Wong, Chief
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Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
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Shelley Norton
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From: [Audra Livergood - NOAA Federal](#)
To: [Shelley Norton - NOAA Federal](#)
Subject: Re: St Lucie BiOp question
Date: Tuesday, May 28, 2013 10:20:12 AM

Hi Shelley,

(b)6

I'm sorry for the delay in my reply. I was [REDACTED] and I'm playing e-mail catch up today.

My google calendar is up to date. Feel free to set up a time for us to talk. If I understood correctly, you and I are going to talk first so you can bring me up to speed on Cathy's concerns before we have a call with Dennis. I hope I got that right. Talk with you soon.

thanks,
Audra

On Tue, May 21, 2013 at 3:30 PM, Shelley Norton - NOAA Federal
<shelley.norton@noaa.gov> wrote:

Hi Dennis, I would like to set up a call with you and Audra to discuss this with you. Audra, let me know when you want to talk so I can get you up to speed on Cathy's concerns. Dennis, I will call you tomorrow to talk. Are you in the office?

Thanks,
Shelley

On Tue, May 21, 2013 at 2:13 PM, Logan, Dennis <Dennis.Logan@nrc.gov>
wrote:

Audra,

This is Dennis Logan at the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission. I am writing about the Section 7 consultation for St. Lucie plant. I know that we will take this up when you have more free time, but I was wondering if you had a quick answer to this question. I tried to call, but the number I found is no longer in service.

Some of NRC's engineers are reviewing the design for the turtle excluding device proposed for the St. Lucie intake structure. The question posed by NMFS is whether the openings could be made smaller—but we are trying to better understand the question before us. There are trade-offs, such as smaller openings would tend to clog more easily with displaced seaweed during storms or be more subject to fouling. The present design would already exclude almost all pregnant female turtles, which I understood was the objective of the excluder. The engineers have to understand these tradeoffs, and we have few actual data. So if at some time you could help me more clearly understand the objective, I could help them better.

This is not an immediate concern, as the project is delayed until you have more time, but, at some point, we should discuss this. I am copying Shelley, as she is familiar with the consultation.

My contact information is below. Thank you for your time,

Dennis

Dennis Logan, Ph.D.

Ecologist

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

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Audra Livergood
Marine Resource Manager
NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service
SERO Protected Resources Division
Fort Lauderdale Field Office

For if one link in nature's chain might be lost, another might be lost, until the whole of things will vanish by piecemeal. Thomas Jefferson

From: [Logan, Dennis](#)
To: [Audra Livergood - NOAA Federal](#); [Gless, Jodie](#)
Subject: RE: Revised Timeline for St. Lucie Biological Opinion
Date: Wednesday, October 29, 2014 2:31:55 PM

Audra,

Thanks for the update.

Dennis

From: Audra Livergood - NOAA Federal [mailto:audra.livergood@noaa.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2014 2:20 PM
To: Gless, Jodie; Logan, Dennis
Subject: Revised Timeline for St. Lucie Biological Opinion

Dear Jodie and Dennis,

Here is a revised timeline for the biological opinion:

- Audra completes draft biop by mid-January and sends draft to St. Pete
- Estimate** is 4 months for clearance of draft (I will request an expedited review)
- NMFS releases draft biop in mid-May
- One month for NRC and FPL to review and comment on the draft biop
- NMFS receives comments on draft biop from NRC and FPL in mid-June (please send one set of comments to NMFS via NRC)
- One month to resolve any issues

(b)6 I want to apologize for the delay in completing the draft biop. Although I prefer not to discuss the details, I am dealing with [REDACTED] and on top of my other work, it has been challenging for me to find blocks of time to work on this biop.

The schedule above takes into consideration the holidays in November and December. I am hoping the draft biop will move through the clearance process faster if I send it after the holidays.

Kind regards,
Audra

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Audra (Livergood) Banks
NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service
SERO Protected Resources Division
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Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we do not grow weary. (Galatians 6:9)

We are supposed to preach without preaching, not by words, but by our example, by our actions. All works of love are works of peace.
Mother Teresa