

July 17th, 1984  
940 NW 5th Terrace,  
Crystal River, Florida 32629

MR. William Dircks,  
Director of Operations,  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission,  
1717 H Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear M. Dircks:

Congressman Buddy MacKay suggested that I write to you for information I am seeking. I live in Citrus County, Florida. Several months ago the Citrus County Commissioners gave permission to reopen a limerock mine, that was supposedly never closed, north of the Florida Power Nuclear Power Plant. They are to resume their mining operation, which was curtailed by court order in 1974, because it was causing damage to homes in the Yankeetown area. This ruling was against a different company than will now be leasing the mine, so the owner says that it does not apply. He has leased it to a different firm and they are to go into full operation by next year. The mine is supposed to initially produce around 400-500 tons of limerock per hour. It is a 750 acre mine and was stated at a hearing before the County Commission that the blasting would be "underwater". The mine sits above the Florida Aquifer, as does the Nuclear Power Plant.

I have the draft copies of the EIS (Environmental Impact Statement) for Fla Power Coal Burning Plants number 4 & 5. I assume that much of it was taken from the EIS for the Nuclear Plant and updated. There is no mention of an active mine in the 5 mile area, only that the bulk of the area is zoned for mining, with some agricultural. Portions of Yankeetown and Inglis lie within the 4- and 5-mile radius, "as well as small scattered areas of agricultural, industrial, commercial and residential land uses." (2.2.3 Present and Projected Land Use/2-9). It also states that no major land use change is expected in this 5-mile area over the next 30 years.

At the time the Nuclear Power Plant was constructed this mine was under a court order to limit its operation because of the damage the blasting was causing to homes in the Yankeetown-Inglis area. It was, for all intents and purposes, docile and quiet. Now when all new construction at Florida Power is completed, the owner, whose ranch abuts the Fla Power Property, I believe, leases to a new company and says the court order will not apply to the new company, and they will begin blasting soon, directly above the Florida Aquifer, which is also directly under the Nuclear Power Plant. They intend to blast 24 hours a day.

The residents of Yankeetown are upset because they fear additional damage to their homes. I fear that the possibility of a mine blasting to the intensity and frequency that this one intends to do, into the water, which can carry an impacted force a long way, will cause damage to the Nuclear Plant and damage to the area that I live in for a long time to come.

I am certain that there are many safeguards built into the construction of this Plant, but I would like a specific question answered. If the Crystal River Nuclear Plant never had been

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constructed, would the regulations allow it to now be constructed on top of the Florida Aquifer with a mining operation similar to the one I have described nearby. If the answer is yes, then please be specific as to how "near" this operation could be.

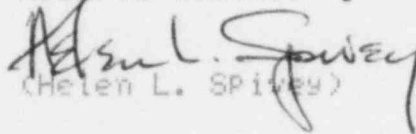
I would also like a copy of where this mine was discussed in the EIS for the Nuclear Plant. The owner claims it was going all the time in a limited capacity, and as such was grandfathered in recently by our County Commission. I cannot see how it was overlooked by Fla Power in their EIS, if it could rise up and operate at the potential it now intends.

I do not expect an answer directly from you, but will hope that you would turn this over to one of your engineering staff who has knowledge of the geological features of the Floridan Aquifer as it exists in the area in question, complete with large cracks.

The prospect of the mine frightens me when I equate it with my college geology courses of what is under the mine and the Nuclear Plant. I hope you will be able to ease my fears by showing that this matter has been thoroughly investigated and modeled to determine what limits need to be placed on mining in the area.

Looking forward to hearing from someone in your office on this, I am

Most cordially,

  
(Chelen L. Spivey)

SPIVEY  
940 NW 5th Ter.  
CRYSTAL RIVER, FL  
32629



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*Helen L. Spivey*  
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