

Mr. Robert Hoffman  
 National Marine Fisheries Service  
 Southeast Region  
 Protected Species Division  
 9721 Executive Center Drive North  
 St. Petersburg, FL 33702

November 30, 1999

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR FORMAL SECTION 7 CONSULTATION UNDER THE  
 ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT REGARDING SEA TURTLES AT THE  
 ST. LUCIE NUCLEAR PLANT (TAC NOS. MA6374 AND MA6375)

Dear Mr. Hoffman:

As discussed in the meeting held on November 10, 1999, between the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Florida Power and Light Company, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), the NRC is requesting an increase in the 1999 incidental take limits for sea turtles at the St. Lucie Nuclear Plant. The NRC would also like to formally request the re-initiation of Section 7 consultation on sea turtles at St. Lucie based on the information being collected in a study scheduled for completion in March 2000. The study is required by Condition No. 7 of the Incidental Take Statement found in the February 7, 1997, Biological Opinion for St. Lucie. Upon completion of the study, NRC will forward the information gathered by the study to support this consultation.

Additionally, a letter noting the approval of the above study by NMFS is Enclosed. Please contact Ms. Kimberly D. Leigh at 301-415-2678 with any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:  
 William C. Gleaves, Project Manager, Section 2  
 Project Directorate II  
 Division of Licensing Project Management  
 Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-335 and 50-389

Enclosure: As stated

cc w/encl: See next page

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**BZalcman**  
**KLeigh**  
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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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Southeast Region  
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Geaves".

William C. Geaves, Project Manager, Section 2  
Project Directorate II  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-335 and 50-389

Enclosure: as stated

cc w/encl: See next page

**Florida Power and Light Company**

**ST. LUCIE PLANT**

**cc:**

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