

# Official Transcript of Proceedings

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Title: Environmental Review for License Renewal  
at St. Lucie, Units 1 & 2  
Public Meeting: Evening Session

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS THE ENVIRONMENTAL

REVIEW FOR LICENSE RENEWAL

AT ST. LUCIE, UNITS 1 AND 2

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3, 2002

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Council Chambers

Port St. Lucie City Hall

Port St. Lucie, Florida

The Public Meeting commenced at 7:00 p.m.

NRC STAFF PRESENTERS:

CHIP CAMERON

NOEL DUDLEY

MICHAEL MASNIK

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A-G-E-N-D-A

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P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

(7:00 p.m.)

MR. CAMERON: Good evening everybody.

I'd like to welcome you to tonight's public meeting. My name is Chip Cameron. I'm the special counsel for public liaison within the Office of General Counsel at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and I'm going to serve as your facilitator tonight.

Now tonight's meeting is on the subject of the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement by the NRC, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, on the request by Florida Power and Light to renew the licenses for the St. Lucie operating units. And what I'd like to do is just go over three things briefly with you about tonight's meeting before we get to the substance of our discussions tonight.

And I'd like to talk about objectives for the meeting tonight. Secondly talk about the format and ground rules, and third, to give you a little overview of the agenda for tonight's meeting so that you know what to expect.

In terms of objectives tonight, we want to make sure that you understand what the NRC's license renewal process is and how you can participate in that

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1 process, not only tonight, but over the course of the  
2 NRC's review of the Florida Power and Light license  
3 renewal application.

4 And an important part of the NRC's review  
5 process on the license renewal application is the  
6 environmental review and tonight's meeting is called  
7 a scoping meeting, which is a term that's used in  
8 connection with the preparation of an Environmental  
9 Impact Statement by a federal agency under the  
10 National Environmental Policy Act. And the  
11 Environmental Impact Statement helps guide the NRC's  
12 decision-making on whether to grant a renewal of the  
13 license for the St. Lucie Plants.

14 Scoping is very simply an advance  
15 preparation by the NRC to find out what types of  
16 information we should look at in preparing that  
17 Environmental Impact Statement, what types of impacts  
18 we should consider, what types of alternatives.

19 And this leads me to the second objective  
20 for tonight's meeting, which is to hear from you  
21 members of the public on environmental issues and  
22 environmental concerns, and that's why we're here  
23 tonight to talk to you.

24 We are also taking written comments on  
25 these issues and the NRC staff will be talking to you

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1 in a little bit about how you submit written comments.  
2 But we did want to be here personally to meet you and  
3 to explain more about what our responsibilities are.

4 And as you're listening to people tonight,  
5 either from the NRC or other people in the audience,  
6 it may give you some information to assist you in  
7 preparing any written comments that you might want to  
8 submit. But let me emphasize that anything that you  
9 say tonight is on the record and will be treated with,  
10 the same way as any written comments that are  
11 submitted.

12 In terms of the format for the meeting and  
13 the agenda also, they follow the two objectives of the  
14 meeting, to provide information to you and for the NRC  
15 to be able to listen to your comments.

16 There's really two segments to the  
17 meeting. The first segment is comprised of two brief  
18 NRC presentations to give you some background on the  
19 license renewal process.

20 The first presentation is going to be an  
21 overall presentation on the license renewal process  
22 and then we'll go to you for questions and answers  
23 about that process. And then we're going to get a  
24 little bit more detailed in the second presentation  
25 and focus on what the environmental review process is,

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1 and then go to you again for a question and answer.

2 Noel Dudley, who is right here, is going  
3 to give the first presentation on the overall license  
4 renewal process. And Michael Masnik, who is right  
5 over here, is going to give the second presentation.

6 And I'd like to give you some background  
7 on both Noel and Mike.

8 Noel is the license renewal project  
9 manager for St. Lucie for this particular license  
10 renewal and he's worked with the NRC for approximately  
11 18 years, including being a senior staff engineer for  
12 the advisory committee on reactor safeguards, that's  
13 an advisory committee of experts that advises the  
14 Commission on license applications of this type and  
15 other activities.

16 He's also been a resident inspector at the  
17 Seabrook Nuclear Power Plant and also a certified  
18 licensed operator licensing examiner. And the  
19 operators are the ones who operate the nuclear power  
20 plants.

21 Prior to joining the NRC, Noel was a  
22 certified shift supervisor at the Loss of Fluid Test  
23 Facility, known as LOFTF, which in Idaho and he was  
24 officer in the Nuclear Navy, and he spent two years in  
25 the Peace Corps in Kenya, teaching physics and

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1 science.

2 His graduate work is from Idaho State  
3 University and Villanova, and he has a Bachelor's in  
4 Engineering and Physics from Villanova.

5 Mike's background, he's the environmental  
6 project manager. And you're going to see in their  
7 presentations now the safety -- the evaluation of the  
8 safety issues comes together with the evaluation of  
9 the environmental issues. And the NRC considers both  
10 of those as well as special inspection findings in  
11 making its decision on license renewal.

12 Mike is the environmental project manager  
13 for St. Lucie. He has been with the NRC for about 25  
14 years and he has a Bachelor's from Cornell University  
15 in Zoology and a Master's and PhD. from Virginia  
16 Polytechnic Institute in Ichthyology.

17 And he was part of the original  
18 environmental review team on the original licensing  
19 decision on the St. Lucie Plant.

20 He's been involved in various activities  
21 and responsibilities at the Commission including  
22 decommissioning and the oversight of the cleanup at  
23 the Three Mile Island Plant.

24 And we do have, in addition to Noel and  
25 Mike, we have people here from other offices at the

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1 NRC. And from our regional offices. We also have a  
2 group of expert scientists with us, who are helping to  
3 prepare the Environmental Impact Statement. And I  
4 would just encourage all of you to meet them and talk  
5 to them after the meeting.

6 The second segment of the meeting is going  
7 to be our opportunity to listen to your comments  
8 tonight. And we have several people who are signed up  
9 to speak.

10 If you are listening to things tonight and  
11 you decide that you'd like to speak, that's fine. You  
12 didn't need to sign up in advance, but we thank you  
13 for doing so, because it gives us an idea of how many  
14 people to expect.

15 And in terms of ground rules for tonight's  
16 meeting --

17 VIDEO PERSON: You're fading in and out.

18 MR. CAMERON: Okay.

19 (Audio problems with the microphone  
20 connection.)

21 MR. CAMERON: We want to make sure that  
22 everybody has the opportunity to talk tonight. And  
23 that means that we have to encourage you to try to be  
24 as concise as possible in your remarks. And as a  
25 general guideline, I would ask you to keep your

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1 remarks to approximately five minutes. Thank-you.  
2 And we have some flexibility there, but not a whole  
3 lot, so try to keep it to five minutes.

4 Secondly, I would ask you to only speak,  
5 one person at a time speaking, so that we can give  
6 them our full attention. And we are keeping a  
7 transcript tonight that will be available to anybody  
8 who wants it and it will help us to keep track of what  
9 the comments are. So one person at a time will allow  
10 us to have a clean transcript tonight.

11 Okay. The focus tonight is environmental  
12 information. It's the environmental review. We know  
13 there are other concerns. Perhaps the safety issues  
14 that Noel Dudley is going to be talking about. We  
15 want to hear those, if you have some concerns about  
16 those. And those safety issues will be referred to  
17 the people who are doing the safety evaluation.

18 If there are other concerns that don't fit  
19 within the license renewal context, we will make sure  
20 that they get back to the people at the NRC who are  
21 responsible for dealing with those particular issues.

22 An important point to emphasize is that no  
23 decisions have been made on any of these issues at  
24 this point. Nothing has been foreclosed and we want  
25 to hear from you tonight, written comments. We have

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1 our review to do before there will be any decisions,  
2 preliminary -- even preliminary decisions made.

3 So I thank you for being here. And I do  
4 want to, before I turn the meeting over to Noel, is to  
5 thank the City of Port St. Lucie for letting us use  
6 these wonderful facilities tonight and also thanks to  
7 the audio-visual staff for helping us out.

8 And with that, I'd like to turn it over to  
9 Noel Dudley, to give us an overview on the license  
10 renewal process.

11 Noel?

12 MR. DUDLEY: Thank-you, Chip.

13 As Chip mentioned, I am Noel Dudley, the  
14 project manager for the safety review of St. Lucie  
15 Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2, license renewal  
16 application.

17 As you may know, the Florida Power and  
18 Light Company submitted their license renewal  
19 applications on November 30th, 2001. The operating  
20 licenses for St. Lucie Units 1 and 2 currently expire  
21 in 2016 and 2023, respectively.

22 The license renewal process that I will  
23 overview for you today, confirms that the licensing  
24 basis at the time of original plant construction, as  
25 revised over the years, will continue to be valid for

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1 the period of extended operation.

2 The Atomic Energy Act provides that the  
3 Nuclear Regulatory Commission is responsible for  
4 public health and safety, protection of the  
5 environment and the common defense and security. It  
6 also provides that each power reactor would have a  
7 forty year license term. But the Atomic Energy Act  
8 went on to say that those licenses could be renewed.

9 The original forty year license term was  
10 based primarily on anti-trust and economic factors and  
11 not on any technical limitation of the plant design.

12 However, having established a forty year  
13 license term, the Commission realized in the early in  
14 the early 1980's that it would have to establish a  
15 process for making license renewal decisions.  
16 Consequently, the Commission developed and approved a  
17 new regulation concerning the process for renewing  
18 power reactor operating licenses. This regulation is  
19 formally referred to as 10 CFR Part 54, "Requirements  
20 for Renewal of Operating Licenses for Nuclear Power  
21 Plants."

22 There is a companion regulation that  
23 provides the scope of the license renewal and it is  
24 referred to as -- the scope of environmental review --  
25 and is referred to as 10 CFR Part 51, "Environmental

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1 Protection Regulations for Domestic Licensing and  
2 Related Regulatory Functions."

3 Applications for license renewal are  
4 submitted years in advance for several reasons. If a  
5 utility decides to replace a nuclear power plant, it  
6 would take up to ten years to plan and construct new  
7 generating capacity to replace that nuclear plant. In  
8 addition, plans to replace or recondition major  
9 components are early considerations for license  
10 renewal.

11 Licensees considering license renewal,  
12 evaluation the requirements for additional plant  
13 inspections and maintenance practices for the period  
14 of extended operation. A licensee then must decide  
15 whether to renew a plant license or to begin  
16 decommissioning the plant at the end of the present  
17 license term.

18 The process that the NRC provides for, as  
19 Chip mentioned, essentially runs in two parallel  
20 paths. There is a safety review, which is the top  
21 path, looks at the scope of license renewal issues  
22 associated with aging management programs for passive  
23 long-lived system structures and components.

24 Now this is important: The Commission  
25 believes that ongoing regulatory -- that the ongoing

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1 regulatory process is adequate to monitor the  
2 maintenance of active components, the current  
3 licensing basis, and the provisions for plants such as  
4 emergency planning and security plans. Now what that  
5 says, it's a -- the items I just mentioned are outside  
6 the scope of license renewal.

7 There are many plant processes that  
8 provide constant attention to these things. However,  
9 those processes do not explicitly look at the plant's  
10 design capabilities to cope with long-term degradation  
11 of equipment due to aging effects.

12 So the license renewal application focuses  
13 on those inspection programs and maintenance practices  
14 that are used to maintain the margins of safety for  
15 safety-related equipment.

16 The application also evaluates non-safety-  
17 related components and structures that would adversely  
18 affect the reliability of the safety-related  
19 equipment.

20 Separately, the NRC conducts an  
21 environmental review, which is the bottom path on the  
22 slide, and Dr. Michael Masnik is going to address that  
23 in more detail.

24 The NRC staff prepares a Safety Evaluation  
25 Report and an Environmental Impact Statement. These

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1 products, taken together with two other products, form  
2 the basis for the Commission to renew a license.

3 One of the other products is produced by  
4 the Commission's Advisory Committee on Reactor  
5 Safeguards. The ACRS is an independent body of  
6 experts from the industry, national labs, and  
7 academia, who have expertise in a variety of technical  
8 areas. The ACRS reviews the technical quality of the  
9 license renewal application and the NRC Safety  
10 Evaluation Report. It then writes a report to the NRC  
11 Chairman, Dr. Meserve.

12 There is also an NRC inspection program  
13 that verifies certain key elements of the staff's  
14 safety findings. Collectively, the Commission's  
15 decision on a license renewal application, will rely  
16 on the Safety Evaluation Report, Environmental Impact  
17 Statement, and ACRS Report, and the NRC inspection  
18 reports.

19 These activities are scheduled over about  
20 a 25 month period, assuming there is not a hearing.  
21 Had there been a hearing petition, which was submitted  
22 and then granted, then the schedule would have been  
23 about 30 months to complete the review process.

24 I will be available after the meeting if  
25 there are any questions that you have about the aging

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1 management program review, the specifics of the safety  
2 review process, or the ultimate content of the Safety  
3 Evaluation Report.

4 Unless there are any questions you have  
5 about the overall process, I'll turn the meeting over  
6 to Mike Masnik to go through the environmental review  
7 of this license action.

8 MR. CAMERON: Okay, thank-you very much,  
9 Noel.

10 (Audio problems with the microphone  
11 connection.)

12 MR. CAMERON: Okay, how about now?

13 COURT REPORTER: Yes.

14 MR. CAMERON: All right.

15 Let's see if you have any questions for  
16 Noel now on the safety evaluation.

17 Are you picking up anything now?

18 (Audio problems with the microphone  
19 connection.)

20 MR. CAMERON: We want to see if there's  
21 any questions that people have and we're going to go  
22 right out there.

23 We really do need another mike, though, to  
24 get this on the transcript.

25 Mr. Doyle, why don't you come up here and

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1 ask your question, and then we'll have whoever is  
2 going to answer it come on up. So why don't you come  
3 up here and do that and we'll try to get another mike  
4 talking stick for you.

5 So just give us your name, okay, and  
6 affiliation, if appropriate?

7 MR. DOYLE: My name is Glenon Doyle, and  
8 I live right in between the two power plants.

9 And my question for Mr. Noel Dudley --  
10 thank-you very much for your presentation tonight --  
11 is, if security is outside the scope of license  
12 renewal and all that is required for license renewal,  
13 perhaps, are the four elements that you mention of a  
14 safety report, an EIS, an ACR -- a safety report being  
15 the actual components of the nuclear plant and that  
16 they're safe, EIS would be an environment statement --  
17 I'm not sure what that encompasses, ACRS is from the  
18 scientists, and NCR (sic) report is from our nuclear  
19 friends.

20 If that's all that's required, what part  
21 does security play in the licensing of the plant?

22 MR. CAMERON: Okay, thanks, Mr. Doyle.

23 (Inaudible) Mr. John Tappert is with us,  
24 who was going to deal with the security issues.

25 Noel, do you have anything to say about

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1 that first before we go on to John?

2 MR. DUDLEY: I'll just give a very broad  
3 answer to that -- is that license renewal only looks  
4 at those elements of plant aging that are not part of  
5 the ongoing licensing basis.

6 Security is an operating plant issue.  
7 It's an issue that deals with all nuclear power plants  
8 that are licensed today and is dealt with as, for all  
9 plants across the country. And it was intended not  
10 have generic issues be included in a plant's specific  
11 review for license renewal.

12 And would John explain what the situation  
13 is with the generic?

14 MR. CAMERON: Okay, and John is the  
15 section chief for the environmental review of all  
16 license renewals and he'll give you more background  
17 for all of you on the important issue concerning  
18 security.

19 John?

20 MR. TAPPERT: Yeah.

21 (Audio problems with the microphone  
22 connection.)

23 MR. TAPPERT: We say it's out of scope for  
24 the license renewal process, because we're looking at  
25 granting an extension license for twenty years, and we

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1 deal with security in the current operating basis of  
2 the plant. Not to say that it's not important or that  
3 we don't take it very seriously, particularly in the  
4 aftermath of the September 11th attacks. The agency  
5 has taken a number of actions to upgrade the security  
6 of nuclear power plants. We've manned our operation  
7 center. We're in constant communication with the FBI  
8 and with the plants. We have issued orders to the  
9 other operating reactor plants to upgrade the security  
10 programs.

11 The Commission is also undertaking a long  
12 term program to analyze all aspects of nuclear reactor  
13 safeguards. So when we say it's out of scope, it's  
14 not to say that we don't think it's important here and  
15 that the agency isn't dealing with it. It's just not  
16 part of this particular licensing action.

17 MR. CAMERON: Thank-you, John.

18 Other questions on the license renewal  
19 process, generally, before we go to Dr. Michael  
20 Masnik.

21 (No response.)

22 MR. CAMERON: Okay. And if something  
23 comes up as a result of -- if you think of something  
24 you want to ask, we're going to have a question and  
25 answer after Mike's presentation, so you can ask it

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1 then.

2 Mike? This is on the environmental review  
3 process for license renewal.

4 DR. MASNIK: Thanks, Chip and Noel.

5 As Chip mentioned, my name is Mike Masnik  
6 and I'm the environmental project manager responsible  
7 for the environmental review for the NRC's license  
8 renewal effort for St. Lucie.

9 With me tonight is a number of  
10 environmental experts, both from the NRC and from  
11 several national laboratories. We arrived earlier  
12 this week and we've been conducting our environmental  
13 audit on a number of disciplines, ranging from aquatic  
14 ecology, to socioeconomics, to radiation protection.  
15 You can tell who we are, we're the guys with the  
16 jackets, and ties, and the name tags.

17 The National Environmental Policy Act or  
18 NEPA, was passed in 1969, and it is one of the most  
19 significant pieces of legislation enacted in the 20th  
20 Century. For the first time, the federal government  
21 was required to consider the impact of its actions on  
22 the environment.

23 As you see from this slide, NEPA  
24 prescribes a process, requires consideration of  
25 impacts and requires the evaluation of alternatives.

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The requirements for NEPA fall on the federal agency that's taking the federal action, and in this case, it's the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The NRC has elected to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement or in NEPA jargon, called the EIS, as part of the review extending the operating license for St. Lucie for an additional twenty years.

What NEPA does not require is of equal importance. For example, NEPA does not require that the alternative with the smallest impact to be chosen, nor does it require that the federal agency hold adjudicated hearings on the impact of the proposed action.

As I just mentioned, our focus here is on the environmental impacts of a twenty year renewal of the St. Lucie operating license, which has been requested by the licensee.

We will also consider environmental impacts of alternatives to the proposed action, which may be available, and they would also include what we call the no action alternative. In other words, simply not approving the request for license.

What else does NEPA require?

NEPA was designed to disclose information.

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1 The intent is for the federal agency to both inform  
2 the public, and to involve and gather information from  
3 the public, that might be helpful to us in reaching  
4 our decision.

5 Finally, NEPA requires the federal  
6 agencies to be candid in our discussion of impact,  
7 consider ways in which the potential impacts might be  
8 mitigated.

9 At this point in the review, we're in the  
10 process of gathering information we need to prepare  
11 the Environmental Impact Statement. In the jargon of  
12 NEPA, we are performing what we call scoping.

13 A public meeting is part of our scoping  
14 process, with the purpose of providing you, the  
15 public, and other governmental agencies with an  
16 opportunity to participate in the preparation of the  
17 Environmental Impact Statement, by sharing with us any  
18 information you might believe to have some bearing on  
19 our environmental evaluation.

20 In particular, we're looking for  
21 information that might not be readily available, or  
22 concerns that members of the public have, that may not  
23 have been addressed by the licensee in their  
24 environmental report, which was included as part of  
25 their application for license renewal.

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1           We want to consider any information  
2 provided to us, to see if it warrants further  
3 evaluation in the development of our draft  
4 environmental impact statement.

5           Now what exactly is the NEPA scoping  
6 process?

7           As this slide states, it's a formal  
8 process that defines the proposed action and  
9 identifies specific issues that should be analyzed in  
10 depth by the staff. Scoping should also identify  
11 issues that may have been overlooked, and there is  
12 where we need your help.

13           Scoping also helps the staff to eliminate  
14 issues that are not relevant to the proposed action.  
15 It also identifies other environmental reviews that  
16 might involve the proposed action, and as well as  
17 local, state, tribal and federal entities, that have  
18 a stake in the decision.

19           Now, once we gather our information and we  
20 perform our analysis, and we prepare the Environmental  
21 Impact Statement, we need to make a decision as to  
22 whether or not the NRC should, from an environmental  
23 perspective, allow the licensing -- or the  
24 re-licensing of the facility.

25           This next slide provides what we call our

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1 decision standard. It states what we're trying  
2 decide, the decision we're trying to reach, and that  
3 is whether or not the environmental impacts of the  
4 proposed license renewal, are so great as to preclude  
5 the license renewal as a reasonable alternative.

6 Now I want to emphasize that if we were to  
7 decide in the end that license renewal is acceptable  
8 from an environmental perspective, all that means is  
9 that it's okay for the licensee to operate for an  
10 additional twenty years, from an environmental  
11 perspective. We don't determine whether they actually  
12 will or will not operate those additional twenty  
13 years. Those decisions are made elsewhere, in  
14 particular, by the licensee themselves, and perhaps by  
15 state regulators.

16 It is possible the licensee could  
17 determine, after this review, that it is not  
18 economically feasible to continue operating the plant.  
19 If so, they would shut down and that's their decision.  
20 We are simply determining whether continued operation  
21 through the license renewal period is acceptable  
22 environmentally.

23 Now this slide gives a little more detail  
24 on the environmental review schedule for St. Lucie.  
25 Unfortunately, it's a little out of focus and it may

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1 be difficult to read. If you have our hand-out,  
2 though, you should be able to read it. I'll quickly  
3 go through it.

4 The licensee's application was received on  
5 November 29th, 2001. On February 28th, 2002, we  
6 issued a notice of our intent to perform scoping,  
7 which is what we're doing now. We also issued in that  
8 same federal register notice, the intent to develop an  
9 Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed action.

10 The scoping phase of our environmental  
11 review will end on April 30th, 2002. After that we  
12 will complete the development of a draft environmental  
13 impact statement, which we expect to issue for public  
14 comment in October of 2002.

15 We will also come back here in early  
16 December for another public meeting to focus on the  
17 draft environmental impact statement that we've  
18 issued, and to give the public an opportunity to  
19 provide us with any comments you might have on the  
20 document.

21 After receiving and evaluating those  
22 comments, we will then develop a final Environmental  
23 Impact Statement, which we expect to issue in July of  
24 2003.

25 Now we gather information for our

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1 evaluation from a number of different sources,  
2 including the document sent to us by the licensee. We  
3 also meet and correspond with federal, state and local  
4 government officials, and interested people from the  
5 local community, which might have information that  
6 would help us out in our environmental evaluation.

7 We also visit the site, which is another  
8 part of what we're doing here this week, getting  
9 familiar with the local environment, examining  
10 features of particular interest, and observing  
11 firsthand how the site interacts with the environment.

12 Now our review team focuses on many  
13 environmental interests. This slide shows the sort of  
14 areas we're looking at, everything from the air, to  
15 the water, to under the ground.

16 We also look at issues such as  
17 socioeconomics, how does the plant affect people's  
18 lives economically. We consider environmental  
19 justice, which focuses on the question of whether  
20 there are minority or low-income population groups  
21 that might be disproportionately impacted by the  
22 proposed license renewal.

23 Now just lifting a few key dates from the  
24 earlier slide, our schedule is to complete the scoping  
25 process by April 30th, 2002. That's when the public

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1 comment ends -- comment period on scoping ends. After  
2 that, as I indicate, we will issue our draft  
3 Environmental Impact Statement in October, and we  
4 expect to issue the final Environmental Impact  
5 Statement in July of 2003.

6 Now I'm the agency's primary point of  
7 contact for the environmental review. Note that the  
8 slide includes my phone number. However, if you want  
9 to provide me comments, I need to get your input in a  
10 form that we can use, either in writing or as Chip  
11 indicated, verbal comments given here at tonight's  
12 meeting, which is being transcribed, and that  
13 transcription from this meeting will become a written  
14 record of your comments.

15 Now arrangements have been made for the  
16 documents associated with the license renewal  
17 environmental review to be locally available to you.  
18 The Indian River Community College Library has been  
19 kind enough to donate some shelf space available for  
20 documents related to our environmental review.

21 If you need to go the library, ask at the  
22 front desk and they'll direct you to the carrel that  
23 contains that information. At the present time, it's  
24 a couple of feet long of material.

25 The library will continue to receive

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1 documents that are generated in the course of our  
2 environmental review and those will be made available  
3 in a similar manner.

4 Also documents will be available on our  
5 document management system, which can be accessed  
6 through our web page, and the website is given on this  
7 slide, down at the bottom. I know it's a little  
8 difficult to read. It's [www.nrc.gov](http://www.nrc.gov)

9 Basically you enter that site and it will  
10 direct you to our records management program called  
11 ADAMS, and then from that you will be able to get just  
12 about any document that the NRC has published, not  
13 only on this particular license renewal application,  
14 but any other.

15 Now, if you want to submit comments,  
16 written comments to us, other than those that you're  
17 providing tonight in your verbal comments, we have a  
18 couple of options. You can write us a letter and the  
19 address you would use to get that -- to send that  
20 letter to us is on the slide.

21 But I want to caution you, however, that  
22 since last fall's anthrax incident, many letters  
23 delivered to the Washington, D.C. area, particularly  
24 to federal agencies, has taken up to several months.  
25 In fact, I was provided a letter this evening that was

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1 dated the 2nd of February, and it was received several  
2 days ago. Unfortunately our mail is shipped somewhere  
3 in the mid-West where it's irradiated before it's then  
4 sent to us.

5           So if you plan to submit written comments,  
6 please send them by e-mail to the address on this  
7 slide, right down here (indicating). What we've done  
8 is developed a -- or we set up a special e-mail  
9 mailbox, just for the St. Lucie review. So if you  
10 send it to that e-mail address, and I check it daily,  
11 I'll be able to receive it.

12           Now if you're unable to send them by e-  
13 mail and do plan to send them by regular mail, I would  
14 please ask that you let me know, call me and tell me  
15 that you've mailed them, so that I'll be looking for  
16 them, and I'll probably ask you at that time if you  
17 could fax them to me as well, so I have a hard copy to  
18 work from.

19           And, of course, certainly you can stop in  
20 and deliver your comments to me personally, if you're  
21 in the Rockville, Maryland area, however, we haven't  
22 had too many people use this option in that past.

23           That concludes my presentation and if  
24 anybody has any specific questions for me concerning  
25 the environmental review process, we can take those

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1 now. And I thank you for your time.

2 MR. CAMERON: Okay, thanks, Mike.

3 Are there questions about the concept, or  
4 any left-over questions from Noel Dudley's  
5 presentation?

6 (No response.)

7 MR. CAMERON: Okay. Well, let's go to --  
8 in a minute we'll go to hearing from you.

9 Yes?

10 MR. DOYLE: I'm not sure where to begin  
11 on this, but in the review of nuclear power plants, is  
12 there an acceptable loss to life in the community?

13 I notice from speaking with several people  
14 with ties and badges on tonight, that they realize  
15 that there's a cost factor through FP&L, that that's  
16 acceptable loss to the community for life.

17 And also, will the fact that the amount of  
18 catastrophic damage that can occur in the nuclear  
19 industry, which is much greater than the petroleum, or  
20 solar, or any other industry taken into effect, and  
21 once accepting this, the Nuclear Regulatory  
22 administration must surely acknowledge that there is  
23 a certain number of casualties that are acceptable,  
24 and for every million people, I'd like to ask you to  
25 inform the public of the potential impact or identify

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1 the significant issues to be discussed in depth on  
2 this particular topic.

3 (Audio problems with the microphone  
4 connection.)

5 MR. CAMERON: Mike, do you get the  
6 characterization on that question?

7 DR. MASNIK: We don't have an acceptable  
8 number of deaths associated with any of the actions  
9 that we take. Our regulations require actions on the  
10 part of licensees to make the risk to the public as  
11 low as reasonably can be achievable.  
12 And we do not assume that operation of a plant will  
13 result in so many deaths.

14 MR. CAMERON: The NRC generally does not,  
15 in setting its regulations, does not use a cost  
16 benefit equation in coming up with (inaudible)  
17 necessary to protect the public.

18 Is that correct?

19 DR. MASNIK: Correct.

20 MR. CAMERON: All right.

21 Anybody else?

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible) --  
23 statistics.

24 MR. CAMERON: Why don't we get one more  
25 statement in, okay?

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1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.

2 MR. CAMERON: All right, good. I don't  
3 mean good, but, all right.

4 Let's go to the second part of the  
5 meeting. I don't think there's any other questions  
6 out there. And this is where we hear from you. And  
7 we're going to have two short presentations by the  
8 Florida Power and Light folks now to give you their  
9 rationale on the license renewal application.

10 First of all we go to Mr. Don Jernigan,  
11 who is the senior vice-president at the St. Lucie  
12 site, and then we're going to hear from Tom  
13 Abbatiello, their environmental aide on this.

14 MR. JERNIGAN: Good evening, and thank-  
15 you, Mr. Cameron.

16 My name is Don Jernigan, and I am the  
17 vice-president of the Florida Power and Light, St.  
18 Lucie Nuclear Power Plant.

19 I'd like to thank the staff of the Nuclear  
20 Regulatory Commission and the City of Port St. Lucie  
21 for holding this very important meeting today.

22 This is a very important meeting to  
23 identify the environmental aspects of the license  
24 renewal initiative as it relates to the St. Lucie  
25 community, and Florida Power and Light welcomes both

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1 the insight and input from the community. And I'd  
2 like to thank everyone that is here for attending this  
3 evening and participating in this very important  
4 process, and I appreciate this opportunity to be able  
5 to speak to you.

6 Assisting me today is Mr. Tom Abbatiello.  
7 He is the environmental lead for the license renewal  
8 project for Florida Power and Light and he will speak  
9 after me. We will be using this time to provide a  
10 brief overview of the environmental report associated  
11 with renewing the St. Lucie Power Plant licenses.

12 First I'd like to take just a little bit  
13 of time just to talk a little bit about myself. I did  
14 graduate here in the State of Florida from the Florida  
15 State University with a Bachelor of Science in  
16 Physics, and earned my MBA from the University of  
17 Miami. I have currently more than twenty years  
18 experience in the nuclear power industry. I hold a  
19 senior reactor operator's license from another nuclear  
20 power plant and have served as an officer in this  
21 country's Navy's nuclear power program in the  
22 submarine service for over five years.

23 I joined Florida Power and Light's Turkey  
24 Point Nuclear Power Plant located south of Miami,  
25 Florida in 1991, holding a number of technical

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1 positions, before becoming the plant general manager  
2 at that facility. And as some of you may know, that  
3 Turkey Point is widely recognized as one of the top  
4 performing nuclear power plants in the world.

5 And I came to the St. Lucie Power Plant in  
6 2001 as a site vice-president, and I am excited to be  
7 not only the vice-president of St. Lucie, but to be a  
8 member of this community in the St. Lucie, Martin  
9 County area.

10 On a personal note, my wife and I do  
11 consider this a very wonderful location to live and  
12 work. We have two children. Both are at college,  
13 except when they need more money and make it a point  
14 to come home. We consider this a great place to call  
15 home and since this is our home, I care a great deal  
16 about this community that we live in. The prosperity  
17 and the well being of this community is extremely  
18 important to me.

19 And thinking about extending the  
20 operations of the St. Lucie Power Plant, I believe the  
21 process involves more than just renewing the plant's  
22 licenses. It's about renewing our future in this  
23 community as well. And here are a few reasons why.

24 St. Lucie is one of the top performing  
25 plants in this country and supplies a source of clean,

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1 safe, reliable and low cost power to the people of the  
2 Treasure Coast. We are one of the largest employers  
3 in the St. Lucie and Martin County areas, with over  
4 800 full-time employees, but more importantly, our  
5 people do more than just work at the power plant.  
6 They are active members of the community in the St.  
7 Lucie, Martin County area.

8           The St. Lucie Power Plant provides a  
9 source of clean energy. And it's through our  
10 operations that we avoid production of greenhouse  
11 gases, which many scientists believe contribute to  
12 global warming. And with these points in mind, let me  
13 share a little more information about the power plant  
14 itself.

15           The St. Lucie Plant is a two-unit site  
16 located on Hutchinson Island, about eight miles  
17 southeast of Ft. Pierce. At full power, this power  
18 plant produces about 1,700,000 watts of electricity.  
19 That is more than enough electricity to meet the  
20 annual needs of more than 500,000 homes.

21           Over the years, St. Lucie Power Plant has  
22 demonstrated high levels of both safety and  
23 reliability. It has consistently received high  
24 ratings for both the Institute of Nuclear Power Plant  
25 Operations, an independent organization -- our

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1 regulators and peers  
2 have repeatedly recognized St. Lucie as a top  
3 performing plant.

4 As I mentioned earlier, St. Lucie Power  
5 Plant also provides an economical source of  
6 electricity for our friends and neighbors here on the  
7 Treasure Coast.

8 Even if you were to add the future costs  
9 of operation and maintenance and the cost of our  
10 license renewal process, St. Lucie Power Plant remains  
11 a very cost effective supplier of electricity.

12 We are committed to continue the  
13 performance that we have demonstrated through our  
14 renewal of our operating licenses which, for -- which  
15 were issued for Unit 1 in 1976, and Unit 2 in 1983.  
16 These forty-year licenses were issued after completion  
17 of an extensive evaluation of the technical and  
18 environmental aspects associated with the St. Lucie  
19 Power Plant.

20 Today, nuclear power plants have an option  
21 to renew their operating licenses and continue to  
22 provide a valuable service to our community.

23 The preparation of a license renewal  
24 application is a major undertaking. Thousands of work  
25 hours are used to generate this information and to

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1 verify that St. Lucie would in fact continue to be a  
2 safe and reliable power plant in the future.

3 I'm very proud of our application, and I'm very proud  
4 of the team that has put it together.

5 For more than 25 years, our employees have  
6 worked very hard to sustain the option for continued  
7 operation of both St. Lucie units well beyond their  
8 initial forty years of operation, through the  
9 dedication of the highest maintenance standards and a  
10 commitment to safety. Not only have our employees  
11 worked to keep license renewal as an option, but they  
12 have also worked to keep this community involved in  
13 the process.

14 Employees from many departments at the  
15 power plant have formed outreach teams to share  
16 information about the plant and license renewal with  
17 our neighbors and our friends in the surrounding  
18 communities. Our teams have spoken to more than 2,000  
19 individuals at 75 meetings and gatherings. The  
20 feedback that we have received has shown strong  
21 support for the re-licensing of the St. Lucie Power  
22 Plant, to ensure its continued safe operation and to  
23 maintain it as a member of this community.

24 And I'd like to thank all of our neighbors  
25 for the warm reception that you have shown in inviting

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1 us to share this information with you. It has  
2 certainly given us the opportunity to hear what was  
3 important to you, and will help us in continuing our  
4 relationship with the people of the St. Lucie  
5 community.

6 In closing let me say that during my  
7 career in this power industry, I've had the  
8 opportunity to look at many different forms of power  
9 generation and delivery. I believe that the renewal  
10 of the St. Lucie Plant licenses is the preferred  
11 option for meeting the growing energy needs in this  
12 region.

13 I'd like to turn this presentation over  
14 now to my environmental lead, Tom Abbatiello, who will  
15 give some additional information on the environmental  
16 aspects of our application.

17 Tom?

18 MR. ABBATIELLO: Thanks, Don.

19 Good evening everyone, and thanks to all  
20 of you who took time to come out here this evening  
21 after probably working all day.

22 It's an honor to be here today  
23 representing the dedicated employees of FPL's St.  
24 Lucie Plant, as we pursue renewal of the plant's  
25 operating licenses. Our employees want to remain a

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1 part of this community and obtaining renewed licenses  
2 is a necessary step to ensure we are able to continue  
3 as active and beneficial neighbors in this community.  
4 As Don said, my name is Tom Abbatiello and I am the  
5 environmental lead for the St. Lucie Plant license  
6 renewal project.

7 I began work in the Navy nuclear industry  
8 in 1968, after receiving a Master's Degree in  
9 Engineering From Rensilier Polytechnic Institute. I  
10 joined FPL in 1986. My wife and I live in Palm City  
11 and we are extremely fortunate to be able to live and  
12 work in a beautiful area like this.

13 We also believe it is important to give  
14 back to the community where we live. I am pleased to  
15 be a part of a group of FPL employees who contribute  
16 to local area agencies through the United Way. Our  
17 employees also mentor students and volunteer in local  
18 schools. We also support the St. Lucie County  
19 Education Foundation in its scholarship program.

20 FPL employees are also involved in helping  
21 the community through other organizations, such as  
22 Scouts, Little Leagues, civic groups and church  
23 programs. And the Plant's information center, called  
24 the Energy Encounter, hosts about 40,000 visitors each  
25 year, including 15,000 students who visit on

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1 educational field trips.

2 As you can see, the people who work at St.  
3 Lucie Plant are an integral part of the local  
4 community. As members of that community and your  
5 neighbors, safety is our highest priority.

6 The St. Lucie Plant team is made up of  
7 highly trained professionals who have a strong  
8 commitment to safely operating the plant. Our  
9 employees work hard, and are dedicated to high  
10 standards of excellence and continuous improvement.

11 I'm equally proud of the work we do to  
12 preserve and protect the environment. FPL has made a  
13 long-standing commitment to the protection of  
14 Florida's environment.

15 Our display in the lobby shows the broad  
16 range of involvement and lists a few of the  
17 environmental awards that we have received. These  
18 awards include the William Bankard Award for  
19 Excellence in Marine Environmental Protection. And  
20 the National Land Management Award.

21 In February of this year, FPL joined the  
22 EPA's new Voluntary Climate Leader's Program as a  
23 charter partner. This program is aimed at reducing  
24 greenhouse gas emissions.

25 Simply stated, our commitment to the

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1 environment at St. Lucie Plant is an integral part of  
2 FPL's culture. Locally, our environmental programs  
3 are well known.

4 The St. Lucie Plant, which looks out on  
5 the Atlantic Ocean, maintains a strong commitment to  
6 sea turtle protection. Our sea turtle program  
7 involved around-the-clock efforts, including  
8 scientific research and data gathering, participation  
9 in the sea turtle stranding and salvage program,  
10 ongoing sea turtle beach nesting surveys and our free  
11 guided turtle walks for the public.

12 In fact, some of you may have been on these turtle  
13 walks, which we conduct annually during nesting  
14 season.

15 One aspect of our sea turtle program is  
16 our research, which involves examining the turtles  
17 that have entered the plant's intake canal. Expert  
18 biologists, who are on our staff, measure, weigh and  
19 electronically tag turtles. This unique research data  
20 is highly valued by other research biologists in the  
21 scientific community. The data gathered clearly shows  
22 that the sea turtle population is steadily growing.  
23 Our sea turtle protection and education programs are  
24 making a positive contribution to this trend.

25 Aside from the continued environmental

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1 programs, the renewal of the St. Lucie Plant licenses  
2 is important to meeting the energy needs of Florida.  
3 Florida's population is growing approximately two  
4 percent per year and, as we can see from the city here  
5 at Port St. Lucie, this area is rapidly expanding.

6 Electricity consumed per customer has also  
7 increased. FPL must provide power plants to meet the  
8 growing demand for energy. It's also important that  
9 power plants be close to where the electricity is  
10 needed, to ensure the quality of the power and the  
11 stability of the system.

12 Another benefit in renewing the St. Lucie  
13 Plant licenses is our ability to continue providing  
14 clean energy without using additional land for new  
15 power plants. In fact, nuclear power plants prevent  
16 substantial amount of carbon emissions and other  
17 pollutants from going into the air we breathe. The  
18 positive impact on air quality will continue during  
19 the period of extended operation.

20 Part of the process to renew our licenses  
21 included evaluating alternatives to license renewal.  
22 We studied the alternatives for generating this  
23 electricity and renewing the operating licenses at St.  
24 Lucie Plant continues to make good sense.  
25 St. Lucie Plant's license renewal has the least

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1 environmental impact for providing electricity to this  
2 region.

3 Keeping St. Lucie Plant a part of this  
4 community is also important to the social and economic  
5 well being of our neighbors. The estimated economic  
6 impact of plant operation is more than 80 million  
7 dollars annually. The involvement of the St. Lucie  
8 Plant employees in this community, as I discussed  
9 earlier, helps make our area a better place to live.

10 The St. Lucie Plant employees want to  
11 remain a part of this community and, as your  
12 neighbors, share an interest in the well being of the  
13 community and the protection of the environment. We  
14 are committed to safely and reliably operating the St.  
15 Lucie Plant in an environmentally responsible manner  
16 long into the future, to meet the energy need of  
17 Florida.

18 Thank-you.

19 MR. CAMERON: Okay, thank-you very much,  
20 Tom and  
21 thank-you, Don.

22 I'm going to go first to Dr. Alice  
23 O'Keefe, who is with the American Association of  
24 University Women.

25 DR. O'KEEFE: First of all, I want to say

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1 that, you know, looking about among the sea of suits,  
2 important people, and I'm just Jane Q Public, really.  
3 I'm a school teacher, been a school teacher, a college  
4 professor, and I have lived here in Florida, down on  
5 Hutchinson Island, three miles away from the plant, on  
6 the ocean, since 1987. I've been here fifteen years  
7 or more.

8 And I'm out in the community and I talk to  
9 a lot of people. And most of the people realize that  
10 nuclear energy is clean. And you know, I hate you,  
11 Don, and I hate you, Tom, because you said everything  
12 I was going to say about the turtle walk, about the  
13 environmentally sound, and the programs that you have.  
14 They do build houses for habitat for low income  
15 families.

16 And I want to say a special hello to  
17 Rachel Scott, who got me involved and came very  
18 sweetly to one of our AAUW, University Women meeting,  
19 to explain some of the things that are going on with  
20 energy.

21 You know, I was going to say my God, who  
22 doesn't have a computer, who doesn't have air  
23 conditioning, what would Florida be without air  
24 conditioning, and all of things and the reasons for  
25 electricity I want for myself, and I want for my

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1 family, and want for the community. But unless it's  
2 provided in a safe way and that the environment's  
3 protected, I kind of, you know, would still want it,  
4 but I'd have to have some reservations.

5 But I have always felt that the clean air  
6 has been tested by the national people, by the state  
7 people. I have found them to be a very good neighbor,  
8 three miles away. They are involved in the community.

9 They do -- they have contributed to our  
10 Martin County Schools, too, computers and school  
11 supplies. I don't if anybody knows that, but they do.

12 And I really feel that if you can get the  
13 -- you can provide the energy for the people -- and  
14 you know, Florida's energy needs are growing at two  
15 percent annually, and I think as Tom or Don said, that  
16 over a half a million homes could be supplied with  
17 electricity, but it's got to be done safely. And I  
18 feel that they have a good safety record for 25 years,  
19 and I think they're going to go on for another 20  
20 years, so I tell you I do support that they get their  
21 license renewal.

22 Thank-you.

23 MR. CAMERON: Okay, thank-you very much,  
24 Dr. O'Keefe.

25 DR. O'KEEFE: Now I'm going to the

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1 airport.

2 MR. CAMERON: All right.

3 We're going to go next to Mr. Paul Hiott.  
4 And Mr. Hiott's with the St. Lucie County Council of  
5 Social Agencies, but also a member -- or with the  
6 United States Navy Retired Submariners.

7 MR. HIOTT: Yes, thank-you, Chip.

8 I just wanted to make known to -- we had  
9 a presentation made to us by the power plant at the  
10 Council of Social Agencies, very well received by  
11 them, to be able to support the renewal through the  
12 process that they're going through now. And I wanted  
13 to just get -- briefly go into the background of  
14 myself, being in the Navy for twenty-and-a-half years,  
15 on several nuclear submarines, and sleeping  
16 approximately 80 feet away from a reactor. I spent  
17 eight years under water while a reactor was running,  
18 and approximately, like I said before, 80 feet away  
19 was where my bunk was.

20 I feel so safe around them. I felt safe  
21 because they produced the power for the submarines.  
22 And they're also regulated so much by the -- in the  
23 Navy, it was naval reactors that was -- it seemed like  
24 they were there constantly, doing inspections and  
25 everything else, to make sure that they were safe and

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1 properly run.

2 And these plants that we have here in St.  
3 Lucie and various other ones around this nation are  
4 monitored on a, almost daily basis, by somebody  
5 walking around and doing something.

6 So safety is their concern. It's for our  
7 well being. And I feel like it's a very positive note  
8 that we have this energy available to us and it's  
9 produced at a clean level, and also that the process  
10 here continues on, and to renew the plant's license  
11 when it comes due.

12 Thanks, Chip.

13 MR. CAMERON: Thank-you very much, Paul.

14 Let's go next to Jane Rowley from Coral  
15 Communities.

16 MS. ROWLEY: Good evening everyone.

17 I have to take my glasses off. I reached  
18 that point in life where I can't see up close, I can't  
19 see far away. It's like no-man's land.

20 Good evening, my name is Jane Rowley and,  
21 as a resident of Port St. Lucie for 23 years -- there  
22 were 9,000 people here when we first moved here. I'm  
23 a former elected official with the City of Port St.  
24 Lucie, past president of the Chamber of Commerce, and  
25 a trustee for Indian River Community College.

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1           We need electricity, as the good doctor  
2           said before she left. As we have seen in other parts  
3           of great country, there have been power shortages.  
4           This means we need power from St. Lucie Nuclear Plant.

5           Planning for the future means renewing the  
6           St. Lucie license. There is no need to reinvent the  
7           wheel, we have it. We have a very important community  
8           partner in St. Lucie Power Plant. Let's do the right  
9           thing and use an existing source to meet our needs.

10          I support the renewal of the St. Lucie  
11          license for clean, affordable electricity. They're  
12          good neighbors. Good neighbors always contribute the  
13          economy. St. Lucie Plant means clean energy. Let us  
14          keep the plant that provides safe, clean, reliable  
15          electricity.

16          In closing, I have not talked to anyone in  
17          this community and, believe me, I'm on a lot of  
18          committees. My job is being out in the community, and  
19          talking with people, and meeting with people. I have  
20          not met one person who feels that the plant is not  
21          environmentally concerned or friendly. So I think  
22          they should get their license renewal.

23          Thank-you very much.

24          MR. CAMERON: Thank-you, Jane.

25          Let's hear next from Mr. Vince Barry of

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1 Wonderful Wednesday.

2 MR. BARRY: Good evening.

3 My name is Vincent Barry. My wife and I  
4 live at 181 Northeast Fatima Terrace, here in Port St.  
5 Lucie. We would like to voice our support for the St.  
6 Lucie Plant license renewal.

7 My wife and I have lived in Port St. Lucie  
8 for the past 14 years and during that time, we have  
9 come to depend on Florida Power and Light, and the St.  
10 Lucie Nuclear Power Plant to provide a safe, clean and  
11 economical electricity, in a dependable manner.

12 The St. Lucie Power Plant has never failed  
13 us in that regard. In an uncertain world, it is very  
14 comforting to know that when you need electricity or  
15 the services that are associated with it, they are  
16 there.

17 It is also comforting to know that the  
18 electricity that is being generated, is being  
19 generated using the cleanest, the safest fuel on  
20 earth, nuclear power. It is my understanding that  
21 nuclear power poses no air pollution problems and  
22 minimal ecological impact during its use. I certainly  
23 would like to see the vital connections that link the  
24 St. Lucie Plant to our economy, to a cleaner  
25 environment and, most importantly, to the entire

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1 community, continue for the next twenty years.

2 In addition to being an excellent supplier  
3 of low cost electrical power, the St. Lucie Power  
4 Plant is a good neighbor, that participates or  
5 sponsors a number of educational, environmental and  
6 civic activities.

7 The Energy Encounter, with its hands on  
8 electrical exhibits, is a must see attraction each and  
9 every time our children and our grandchildren pay us  
10 a visit.

11 For sometime now, my wife and I have  
12 attended the Wonderful Wednesdays programs, which the  
13 St. Lucie Plant puts on. These highly educational and  
14 entertaining programs have given us many hours of  
15 enjoyment, as well as enlightenment.

16 It was here that we became aware of the  
17 ongoing training and testing that all operators and  
18 plant personnel are subjected to, of the written  
19 procedures that are in place for every operation, of  
20 the continuous preventative maintenance programs that  
21 are stringently applied, and of the quality control  
22 surveillance activities that confirm that all these  
23 safeguards are in place, working as planned, and  
24 documented. All of these efforts are directed to the  
25 assurance of an absolutely fail-safe operation.

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1           We were also made aware of the vital role  
2           that you folks of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
3           play, to make sure that safety is at the forefront of  
4           all plant operations. And for this, we thank you.

5           The St. Lucie Power Plant is not only a  
6           place that produces clean, safe, low cost electricity,  
7           it also is an environmentally friendly facility, that  
8           provides a home to dozens of rare, threatened or  
9           endangered birds and animals.

10          The Turtle Beach nature trail mentioned  
11          here earlier, is open to the public to enjoy Florida's  
12          natural beauty. The plant's beaches provide one of  
13          the best nesting sites for threatened or endangered  
14          sea turtles, and the overall facility itself is a  
15          place of quiet beauty.

16          Finally, my wife and I fully support  
17          renewing the license of the St. Lucie Nuclear Power  
18          Plant and we would like to see that it continues  
19          building on its record of excellence and its culture,  
20          that puts community health and safety above all else.  
21          We would like to see it continue for twenty years or  
22          more and far beyond.

23          I am reminded of the football coach on a  
24          TV commercial when he says, "When you find something  
25          that works, you keep using it."

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1           The St. Lucie Nuclear Power Plant is  
2 something that works. Let's keep using it.

3           Thank-you for letting me express my views  
4 and to lend my support for the renewing of the St.  
5 Lucie Nuclear Plant's license. Thank-you.

6           MR. CAMERON:     Thank-you very much, Mr.  
7 Barry.

8           And next we're going to go to Mr. Jim  
9 Vojcsik. And Mr. Vojcsik is the Director of the St.  
10 Lucie County Veteran's Services.

11          MR. VOJCSIK:    Director of the United Way  
12 of Martin County.

13          MR. CAMERON:     Let's change that to  
14 Director of the United Way of Martin County. Sorry.  
15 I was really proud, I got your name correct.

16          MR. VOJCSIK:     You did get my name  
17 correctly. Thank-you, I appreciate that.

18          My name is Jim Vojcsik, and my wife Donna  
19 and I have lived in the area for three years, since  
20 1999. And along with our two children, we care very,  
21 very deeply about the safety of the community. And I  
22 do want to commend you all for having this process of  
23 reviewing this plant and the license renewal.

24          I am the Executive Director of the United  
25 Way of Martin County and I'm speaking tonight on

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1 behalf of our organization in support of the license  
2 renewal for Florida Power and Light St. Lucie Nuclear  
3 Plant.

4 The power plant is an important source of  
5 energy for our community. Demands for energy in  
6 communities in the Treasure Coast of Florida are  
7 growing annually, and we need the power from the St.  
8 Lucie Plant to meet our needs for electricity. The  
9 plant supplies us with an available source of low cost  
10 electricity and the plant's already here, and we can  
11 use it as a resource to meet our community's energy  
12 needs.

13 The St. Lucie Plant is a good neighbor.  
14 Speaking on behalf of the United Way of Martin County,  
15 I personally know many of the employees at the St.  
16 Lucie Plant and I know how they're involved in the  
17 community. And I know personally that they are  
18 involved with many organizations that are making a  
19 difference in our quality of life in the community.

20 The employees at the plant give very  
21 generously to local United Way campaigns here on the  
22 Treasure Coast. They contribute hundreds of thousands  
23 of dollars each year to local charitable organizations  
24 through their participation.

25 The plant annually conducts one of the

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1 most successful and spirited employee fund-raising  
2 efforts on the Treasure Coast. And recently the  
3 United Way of Martin County recognized an employee at  
4 the power plant as one of our most outstanding  
5 volunteers of the year.

6 The plant is also one of the largest  
7 employers in our area, and it's very important to our  
8 local economy. A business of this size would be very  
9 difficult to replace. The plant's payroll, purchases  
10 and property taxes supply our local governments with  
11 revenue which we need to provide services on which we  
12 depend.

13 In conclusion, because the power plant is  
14 important to our community, it's a good neighbor, it  
15 has a good environmental track record and produces a  
16 viable source of low cost electricity, cleanly and  
17 safely, we should keep this plant in operation for  
18 twenty more years, and we support the license renewals  
19 for the St. Lucie Power Plant. [Attachment 3c]

20 Thank-you.

21 MR. CAMERON: Thank-you, Mr. Vojcsik.

22 Next, let's go to Patricia Baldwin of the  
23 Soroptimists International of St. Lucie County.

24 MS. BALDWIN: Thank-you, and I'm surprised  
25 you could say it. Was that your first attempt at

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1 saying soroptimist?

2 MR. CAMERON: I am surprised I could say  
3 it.

4 MS. BALDWIN: That's very good, very good.

5 My name is Pat Baldwin. I'm actually an  
6 attorney here in Port St. Lucie. I've been here for  
7 four years, enjoy the environment, and have never  
8 heard any concerns about the power plant.

9 I'm here on behalf of Soroptimists  
10 International. And the women in Soroptimists are  
11 women, they're professional women, and they work in  
12 the community. They live in the community. Their  
13 children go to school in the community. And they  
14 asked me to come here and speak on behalf of them.

15 Something Mr. Dudley said that kind of  
16 concerned me, if the application is not renewed. If  
17 the application is not renewed, he said it would take  
18 ten years to create an alternate source of energy.  
19 And think about that. We'd have to take ten years to  
20 find alternate sources of energy. What is the cost  
21 going to be? Where is it going to come from? Is it  
22 going to be available? And now we have a plant we  
23 have to shut down. What's the cost of shutting the  
24 plant down? What's the cost going to be for jobs in  
25 the community if we have to shut the plant down? And

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1 what are the other environmental costs that it's going  
2 to take to get sources that probably aren't going to  
3 be in our own community? Our community will suffer.

4 I haven't heard anything from anybody  
5 that's caused me any concern on the renewal. The  
6 environment seems to be considered. FP&L seems to be  
7 doing a great job in trying to protect the  
8 environment, doing programs for the community that  
9 help support the socioeconomic and also the ecological  
10 environment.

11 In light of the, you know, the  
12 alternatives to the renewal, I think we need to  
13 support the renewal. Again, I haven't heard any  
14 opposition to the renewal from colleagues or from  
15 members of Soroptimists, and I think if we start  
16 looking at the detriments if we don't renew, we have  
17 a real problem on our hands.

18 I think it's in the best interest of the  
19 community to renew the application.

20 MR. CAMERON: Thank-you very much.

21 Douglas Davis, the St. Lucie County  
22 Chamber of Commerce.

23 MR. DAVIS: Thank-you.

24 Firstly, I am Doug Davis. I reside at  
25 2201 Atlantic Beach Boulevard in Ft. Pierce, which is

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1 on North Beach, and I'm a 45 year resident, having  
2 moved down here in '57, so I've been here longer than  
3 the plant.

4 What I wanted to say is when the plant did  
5 first come up and was planned to be built, I had  
6 certain reservations because it was an unknown to me.  
7 I had certain concerns about health and safety,  
8 environmental issues.

9 And I do live within the ten mile radius,  
10 where I live. And I do surf, and I surf right off the  
11 beaches where the plant is, so I've had a 25 year  
12 experience that has proven to me that this particular  
13 energy source is something that I have nothing to be  
14 concerned about.

15 I think that anybody that can be here and  
16 to do the job that they do, and do it in a manner --  
17 that I've lived through  
18 the process and I've seen it work. I highly recommend  
19 it and I fully recommend that the operational license  
20 be renewed, on a personal basis.

21 Also, the power plant here is something  
22 that has dramatically affected my life, as it has with  
23 many lives in our community, in the way that I have a  
24 beautiful family due to the power plant. My father-  
25 in-law is an electrical engineer that moved here from

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1 Pennsylvania 27 years ago, and I got to marry his  
2 daughter, and I have three beautiful children.

3 So that's something that just proves that  
4 there's a community fabric that's interwoven, that's  
5 taken place with FP&L, they're just a part of the  
6 community, and a very valuable part of the community  
7 and something that's more than just a business here.  
8 It's something that's a -- it's a life.

9 And my brother-in-law and his whole family  
10 are part of the electrical union out there. Many of  
11 my good friends are all employed out there, so there's  
12 a real tie with the community there, just in the way  
13 that they've established themselves, and they're part  
14 of -- they are us.

15 On a professional level, I own my own  
16 business. I'm the president of Richard Davis  
17 Construction Corporation and I also have served for  
18 the first six years of the St. Lucie County Chamber of  
19 Commerce as president. I have another six -- excuse  
20 me, six months, not six years -- six months and I have  
21 six months to go. But I'm here also to represent the  
22 professional community to say that we recognize that  
23 FP&L is our, one of our major employers in this  
24 community. They have excellent job opportunities in  
25 the high tech, in the pay, and all the perks that they

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1 provide, so it's a great source for those that have  
2 grown up here, to be able to come and find employment,  
3 and provide for themselves and their families. Their  
4 investments in property and facilities provide  
5 extremely strong part of our tax base that drives our  
6 community.

7 Of course, many people spoke about how  
8 community-active they are. And I don't know as much  
9 about that, but I do know Rachel Scott and I do know  
10 her leadership for United Way here in St. Lucie County  
11 has been phenomenal this past year.

12 And I heard the name of the electrical  
13 union mentioned many times at their banquet and how  
14 they step up to the plate, and they personally invest  
15 in our community in charitable giving, so we applaud  
16 them in that.

17 And we brought this to our own Chamber of  
18 Commerce Board of Directors, and had the full  
19 presentation, and had a unanimous support for the  
20 license renewal. And I wanted to bring to that to the  
21 attention, for consideration, that there was not one  
22 single vote opposed to that. That's from the St.  
23 Lucie County Chamber of Commerce. Professionally and  
24 personally, I support the license renewal.

25 MR. CAMERON: Thank-you, Mr. Davis.

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1           Let's go to Nick Theodore for some  
2           comments. And Nick is with Carpenter's Local Union  
3           130.

4           MR. THEODORE: My name is Nick Theodore.  
5           I'm a resident of Port St. Lucie. I've lived here  
6           since 1987.

7           Prior of being a business representative  
8           for the Carpenter's Union, I was a journeyman  
9           carpenter out of Western Pennsylvania. I've worked in  
10          probably every type of power generating facility that  
11          you could imagine, whether it be gas, coal, trash-  
12          burners, I've worked them all.

13          And when I first came down here and I got  
14          dispatched to go to work at St. Lucie, I thought I was  
15          working in a hospital. The place is extremely clean.  
16          You left there almost as clean as you went there, and  
17          we do some heavy construction work.

18          There's people that, in my trade, have  
19          died working at plants, building them, maintaining  
20          them, but FPL has always stressed, from day one that  
21          I was there, worker safety is paramount, public safety  
22          is paramount.

23          On behalf of the carpenters and the  
24          building trades, because FP&L does utilize the  
25          building trades over there -- as a matter of fact,

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1 since 1997, I think we've set three world's records  
2 for maintenance at that facility, and, Don, I think  
3 I've seen about five, four or five site vice-  
4 presidents prior to you coming on board -- and it's  
5 all been stressed the same way.

6 But on behalf of the building trades and  
7 Carpenter's Local 130, security is always taken care  
8 of over there. The workers are taken care of. The  
9 environment and the public is always taken care of,  
10 and we endorse the extension of the  
11 re-licensing.

12 MR. CAMERON: Thank-you, Nick.

13 I think that covers all of the people who  
14 signed up in advance.

15 I would want to give the opportunity to  
16 anybody who does want to give us some brief comments  
17 at this time, to step forward.

18 Anybody, anybody out there?

19 Mr. Doyle. Come on up.

20 MR. DOYLE: Thank-you, Chip, and again,  
21 thank-you, everyone, for presenting this information.  
22 This is a, basically information exchange for myself  
23 tonight. I'm learning a lot, and I really appreciate  
24 the input from the people of St. Lucie.

25 And I'd just like for them to consider

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1 that there's a bigger world out there also, it's a big  
2 state. And even if a lot of megawatts are generated  
3 that can benefit several hundred thousand homes,  
4 there's a lot more people out there and a lot more  
5 land, and, and animals that don't need to benefit from  
6 that, and that could be affected if anything does go  
7 wrong.

8 And that's my one concern. That's why I'm  
9 here tonight.

10 And that's the only reason, because I love my fellow  
11 humans. I had a great time out at the Olympics, and  
12 I really felt international vibes out there. And,  
13 but, so coming home, I just want to make sure  
14 everybody is safe and that we think about what we're  
15 doing in our communities. And I just don't want you  
16 to make any mistakes that we can't correct.

17 You know, because President Eisenhower  
18 said that we can afford to sacrifice a few thousand  
19 people out there in the defense of national security.  
20 I do believe that all industries, coal-fired plants,  
21 oil burning plants, they all have their allowable  
22 deaths per million ratio, but nuclear power, by the  
23 very nature of it, it's acceptance and promulgation  
24 among the very few governing and regulatory bodies, we  
25 don't have a lot of people giving input on this, just

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1 the NRC and FP&L. We don't -- it's not mandatory that  
2 our local communities and counties even comment on it.  
3 We're just counting on one vote, that's from Governor  
4 Jeb Bush, through the Congress. So, we -- as locals,  
5 we have to keep an eye out for this.

6 But the nuclear industry presents a  
7 catastrophic scenario never before imaginable, and,  
8 besides the usual number of injuries and deaths in the  
9 energy field. We must convince our leaders, but more  
10 importantly, the people who work for NRC and FP&L,  
11 that they are the ones who do all the work. Without  
12 them things would be different.

13 That this unquantifiable resource called  
14 life must be guaranteed as it is by our Constitution,  
15 and that for the mere sake of modernization, we should  
16 not surrender ourselves for them on what they ask me  
17 to do, am I the one who should die? Who else in their  
18 statistics could they be referring to? I know I'm  
19 included in the population count. My death and the  
20 possible death of countless peoples is acceptable to  
21 NRC regulations and FP&L procedures. It's threatening  
22 and it's not worth it.

23 There were black-outs in the Western U.S.,  
24 remember those? Well, nuclear power plants need  
25 electricity from outer sources. Could be a problem.

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1 It's only backed up in the house.

2 Charge people more percentage-wise, who  
3 use more electricity. Let's raise the rates. Hey,  
4 I'm all for it. I don't need nuclear power. I'll pay  
5 a little more.

6 Nowhere here tonight did I hear that we  
7 must conserve. I think this is one of our greatest  
8 focuses that we must do. The electricity consumed per  
9 customer has to decrease. I hear that's been on the  
10 increase.

11 Parents, can you give up TV time and go  
12 for a hike with your kid instead? Can't we all use  
13 less electricity? Let's sacrifice the trivial things  
14 in life so that we don't have to sacrifice the most  
15 sacred.

16 By allowing NRC and FP&L to operate, we  
17 accept and condone the possibility of a nuclear  
18 catastrophe and I hate to use those words and I  
19 apologize for it.

20 I'm not a gambler and I don't know whether  
21 you can remember the last time someone seriously asked  
22 you to bet your life on something.

23 Thank-you.

24 MR. CAMERON: Okay, thank-you, Mr. Doyle.

25 And I guess I would just remind everybody

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1 here that these are personal opinions that are being  
2 expressed by people on these issues.

3 And I don't think that we have anybody  
4 else who wants to speak tonight, so I would just thank  
5 you for all coming out and thank you for participating  
6 tonight.

7 It's an important decision that the NRC is  
8 faced with and the information you gave us tonight  
9 will help us to make that decision.

10 So we're adjourned at this point.

11 (Whereupon, at 8:30 o'clock, p.m., the  
12 public meeting was adjourned.)

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