



MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM #15a

DATE: JULY 7, 2008
TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS
FROM: STAFF
SUBJECT: TURKEY POINT UPRATE

The following report summarizes activities related to the South Florida Regional Planning Council's (SFRPC) role in the review of the Turkey Point Uprate Site Certification.

Background

Florida Power and Light (FPL) is seeking approval to increase the power generation ability of Nuclear Units 3 and 4 at Turkey Point Plant, in Miami-Dade County. This project, known as the Turkey Point Uprate, will increase the generating capacity of its two nuclear units by approximately 100 megawatts each. New technological advances will allow greater electrical output without affecting the existing footprint of the site. The project includes upgrades to the generator, electrical systems and cooling systems. The combination of more nuclear fuel use and a more efficient system will result in increased power production. A similar project is proposed for the St Lucie Plant. The Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council has reviewed the St Lucie Uprate Project.

FPL has submitted a Site Certification Application for the Turkey Point Uprate Project to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). The South Florida Regional Planning Council is one of several affected agencies actively involved in the review and comment of the application, as identified in Florida Statute 403.407(2)(a)5. This process has provided Council staff the opportunity to ensure the project's consistency with the *Strategic Regional Policy Plan for South Florida (SRPP)*.

During the first round of completeness review, Council staff requested additional information in eight issue areas related to the safety, security, economic viability and environmental impacts of the proposed power uprate project. Florida Power and Light (FPL) met with staff to address agency questions. More specific concerns related to Council staff's original issue areas were raised during the March 28, 2008 Informational Public Meeting, hosted by the SFRPC and Miami-Dade County, at which the applicant was present. In April of 2008, FPL issued a written response to the Public's questions. Subsequently Council staff determined they had sufficient information to conduct their review. Council staff submitted a Statement of Issues to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, on June 2, 2008.

Issue Identification and SFRPC Review

After a careful review of FPL's responses, Council staff identified issues that merited additional attention because of their potential impacts to the region. These issue areas include:

- the effects on water quality, Biscayne Bay, and nearby animal and plant life
- the safe transport and storage of fuel

- the appropriate handling of costs associated with the project so there is minimal financial burden on the consumer

Council staff is also concerned that the projected savings associated with the uprate could be compromised in the long term, because of the vulnerability of the Turkey Point facility, particularly the long term impacts of sea level rise to the project site.

As a part of the ongoing review process, Council staff is preparing a final report. The report will ensure the issues identified will be given consideration during the final hearing by FDEP.