



# Turkey Point Nuclear Plant Fact Sheet

*Why it is a problem and what needs to be done to protect our communities.*

## **Nuclear Power is Expensive.**

The construction of two new AP1000 nuclear reactors at Florida Power and Light's (FPL) Turkey Point nuclear plant near Homestead, Florida in Miami-Dade County is going to cost Florida ratepayers billions. Original estimates for Progress Energy's similar proposal in Levy County, Florida were \$6-8 billion in 2006, but have already skyrocketed to \$17-22.5 billion.

## **Nuclear Power Endangers Communities.**

FBI director Robert S. Mueller stated, before the Select Committee on Intelligence in the US Senate in February 2005,

*"Another area we consider rich and vulnerable is the energy sector, particularly nuclear power plants."*



A severe accident could have devastating consequences. A 1982 Congressional report estimated that if a meltdown occurred at **just one** of Turkey Point's existing reactors, it could cause up to 29,000 deaths within one year with costs of over \$48.6 billion (in 1980 dollar and Census figures).<sup>1</sup>

## **Nuclear Power Threatens Our Security.**

"Nuclear power entails potential security risks, notably the possible misuse of commercial or associated nuclear facilities and operations to acquire technology or materials as a precursor to the acquisition of a nuclear weapons capability."<sup>2</sup>

Nuclear reactors create plutonium during their operating cycle—plutonium from which nuclear bombs can be manufactured. Plutonium is one of the most toxic man-made substances known, remaining radioactive for more than 240,000 years.

<sup>1</sup>-Future of Nuclear Power, MIT, 2003.

<sup>2</sup>-U.S. House of Representatives, *Calculation of Reactor Accident Consequences for U.S. Nuclear Power Plants (Health Effects & Costs)*, Nov. 1st, 1982. Results available at <http://www.nirs.org/reactorwatch/accidents/crac2.pdf>. "Peak" does not necessarily mean worst case.

## **Nuclear Power Pollutes.**

➤ **Radioactive spent fuel (nuclear waste) is dangerous** and remains radioactive for millions of years and we have yet to find a solution for effective nuclear waste management. More reactors mean more nuclear waste in Florida.

➤ **There is no safe level of radiation, no 'safe' dose.** Radiation exposures damage reproductive cells and can lead to mutations from generation to generation in humans and animals. Each new exposure to radiation adds to the risk of: genetic mutations and cancer, damage to the immune system, spontaneous abortion, mental retardation, spina bifida, heart disease, leukemia and more.<sup>3</sup>

➤ **Nuclear power threatens our water resources.** Nuclear energy is the most water intensive way to produce energy.<sup>4</sup> According to FPL's federal license application for Turkey Point, water use for commercial and public use in Miami-Dade county is estimated to increase about 35% by 2025, while water use for thermoelectric power generation in the county is expected to increase 3224%!<sup>5</sup>

## **What can you do?**

✓ **Tell** the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) your concerns. Submit written comments by August 16 by emailing [TurkeyPoint.COLEIS@nrc.gov](mailto:TurkeyPoint.COLEIS@nrc.gov), or sending to:

Cindy Bladely, Chief, Rules, Announcements, and Directives Branch

Division of Administrative Services, Office of Administration

Mailstop: TWB-05-B01M

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

✓ **Demand** that FPL abandon this risky project and instead redirect their investments towards affordable, clean, & safe energy solutions such as energy efficiency, wind, solar, and bioenergy that can help farmers, forest interests, and rural communities throughout Florida.

✓ **Contact** the Florida Public Service Commission and tell them to reject FPL's request to charge you in advance for the proposed Turkey Point reactors. If Wall Street won't fund it, why should you? Call 800-342-3552.

✓ **Urge** your elected officials to support legislative initiatives that advance energy efficiency and renewable energy and discourage building new nuclear reactors.

✓ **Join** Southern Alliance for Clean Energy at [www.cleanenergy.org](http://www.cleanenergy.org) and build a strong coalition that will advance clean, safe, energy solutions in Florida!

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3-Nat'l Academy of Sciences, *BEIR V & VII*; *World Health Organization*, & more.

4-Hoffmann, J., S. Forbes, T. Feeley, U.S. DOE, Estimating Freshwater Needs to Meet 2026 Electrical Generating Capacity, June 2004.

5-Florida Power and Light, Turkey Point Combined Operating License, Environmental Report, Revision 0, p. 2.5-34.

**For more information contact Southern Alliance for Clean Energy  
912.201.0354 or [www.cleanenergy.org](http://www.cleanenergy.org)**