



Florida Power & Light Company, P. O. Box 14000, Juno Beach, FL 33408-0420

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Ms. Wendy Dixon
 EIS Project Manager
 M/S 010, U.S. Department of Energy
 Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management
 Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office
 P.O. Box 30307
 North Las Vegas, Nevada 89036-0307

Re: **Florida Power & Light Company Comments
 Draft Environmental Impact Statement for a Geologic Repository for
 the Disposal of Spent Nuclear Fuel and High-Level Radioactive
 Waste at Yucca Mountain, Nye County, Nevada (64 Fed. Reg. 44200,
 August 13, 1999)**

Dear Ms. Dixon:

1... Florida Power & Light Company (FPL), the owner and operator of the St. Lucie Nuclear
 Plant, Units 1 and 2, and the Turkey Point Nuclear Plant, Units 3 & 4, hereby submits the
 following comments to the referenced Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS).
 1... FPL is pleased with the Department of Energy's (DOE) conclusion that the
 environmental impacts from a geologic repository at Yucca Mountain (the Proposed
 Action) will be small and that the DOE's preferred alternative is to proceed with the
 Proposed Action to construct, operate and monitor and eventually close a geologic
 repository for the disposal of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste at
 Yucca Mountain.

FPL believes that the voluminous sound scientific data and comprehensive analysis
 conducted over nearly two decades of investigation and presented in the DEIS
 substantiate that centralized disposal of the nation's spent fuel is the safest and most
 economic choice over the continued storage of spent fuel at some 77 individual
 locations. The data further substantiates that Yucca Mountain is technically viable and
 safe as the location for the repository. FPL further believes that the small environmental
 impacts that are expected to result from a facility at Yucca Mountain are far outweighed
 by the significant environmental benefits that come with a sound nuclear energy
 program. FPL is also a member of the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) and agrees with
 and endorses the comments submitted by NEI.

FPL is a direct stakeholder in the DOE's process to provide a geologic repository for the
 disposal of used nuclear fuel and high-level waste. DOE had a contractual and statutory
 obligation to begin disposal of commercial spent fuel by January 31, 1998. As
 referenced in comments submitted by the Florida Public Service Commission, because

Pg. 2

of the delay in developing the repository, FPL will be faced with providing significant resources and funding to implement alternative management for our used nuclear fuel before the repository can be completed. Our customers have been and are continuing to pay approximately \$20 million per year for the safe disposal of spent fuel from the Turkey Point and St. Lucie Plants. As of January 31, 2000, FPL customers have already paid approximately 407 million dollars into the fund that had been earmarked to build the repository and support implementation of the disposal process.

1 In summary, based on the substantial and compelling evidence collected and presented in the EIS process, FPL supports the DOE's preferred alternative to construct, operate and monitor and eventually close a geologic repository for the disposal of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste at Yucca Mountain. In addition, to minimize the financial and other negative impacts on FPL and its customers, FPL urges the DOE to expedite the completion of the final EIS and move forward with the process leading to the Secretary's recommendation to the President.

Sincerely yours,



J. A. Stall
Vice President
Nuclear Engineering