



Public Service Commission

CAPITAL CIRCLE OFFICE CENTER • 2540 SHUMARD OAK BOULEVARD
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0850

-M-E-M-O-R-A-N-D-U-M-

DATE: October 16, 2009
TO: Ann Cole, Commission Clerk - PSC, Office of Commission Clerk
FROM: Cristina Slaton, Executive Secretary to Commissioner Skop
RE: Docket Correspondence

RECEIVED-FPSC
 09 OCT 16 PM 2:29
 COMMISSION CLERK

Ann,

This office has received the attached e-mail from Michelle Rehwinkel Vasilinda, Florida Representative for District 09, regarding docket no. 090009-EI.

The correspondence has not been viewed or considered in any way by Commissioner Skop. Under the terms of the advisory opinion from the Commission on Ethics (issued July 24, 1991 as CEO 91-31-July 19, 1001), the attached e-mail does not constitute an ex parte communication by virtue of the fact that it was not shown to the Commissioner. Because it is not deemed to be an ex parte communication, it does not require dissemination to parties pursuant to the provisions of section 350.042, Florida Statutes. However, in such cases Commissioner Skop has requested that a copy of the correspondence be placed in the docket file.

Attachment

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

10622 OCT 16 8

FPSC-COMMISSION CLERK

Cristina Slaton

From: Rehwinkel.Michelle [Michelle.Rehwinkel@myfloridahouse.gov]
Sent: Thursday, October 15, 2009 4:59 PM
To: Office of Commissioner Skop
Subject: Recovery Costs for Nuclear Energy Plants is an unjust burden for citizens.

October 15, 2009

Commissioner Nathan A. Skop
 Florida Public Service Commission
 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
 Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850
 Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Dear Commissioner Skop:

I am writing to express my concerns about Florida Power & Light and Progress Energy's petitions for recovery costs for construction of their nuclear power plants in Turkey Point and Levy County respectively. Historically, such preconstruction costs associated with the *planned* nuclear plant construction projects have been a huge burden to our citizens and in these hard economic times it is just wrong. I urge you to consider the serious negative impact allowing these recovery costs will have on consumer and also the negative long-term impact nuclear plants bring to our state.

First, in comparison with the rate of return on investments, both the FPL and Progress Energy's stated and PSC-approved *pre*-construction recovery costs are outrageous. Nuclear plant construction is *the* most costly type of energy construction worldwide. It is also the most lengthy – generally taking an average of 10-12 years for construction to production. Does the PSC anticipate the citizens of Turkey Point and Levy County to pay out a cost recovery tax (and I use the word tax appropriately) to help underwrite such a costly and potentially risky endeavor by privately-funded corporations year after year? Subsidizing construction of nuclear plants on the backs of Floridians guarantees neither our future energy independence nor our safety.

Second, nuclear energy is neither renewable nor clean. The PSC is positioned to put its stamp of approval on a single and alarming route to addressing Florida's energy future. If truly clean, truly renewable, and truly safe energy projects had the same cost recovery deal that Progress Energy and FPL have crafted with the approval of the PSC, our economy, environment, national security and our citizens would be much better served. Our citizens deserve more than a single, extremely costly, and potentially dangerous approach to providing for future energy needs.

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FPSC-COMMISSION CLERK

10/16/2009

Finally, we need to support ways that our nation -- Florida in particular -- can become energy independent and secure. As ex-CIA director Woolsey testified recently before the House Energy and Utilities Committee, our country needs to ensure our national security through decentralization of energy production. This decentralization or "democratization" of energy can occur only through the support and generation of multiple alternative, renewable and truly clean energy production projects. Nuclear production, transportation across state lines, and permanent disposal are fraught with potential legal liability and risks to our national security.

Once again we leave a legacy of unfinished and dangerous business for our children and their children's children to face. Even with the ability to recycle some of the waste, dangerous waste will remain for thousands of years. That is a problem that although I am sure scientists have been working on for decades, we have still not solved. It is unfair and unjust to pawn yet another problem off on others and the next generation.

I appreciate the opportunity to express my concerns and your review of my letter.

Sincerely,

Michelle Rehwinkel Vasilinda
Representative, District 09

MRV:aac

10/16/2009