

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

**DOCKET NO. 140009-EI
FLORIDA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY**

MARCH 3, 2014

**IN RE: NUCLEAR POWER PLANT COST RECOVERY
FOR THE YEAR ENDING
DECEMBER 2013**

**TESTIMONY OF:
ALBERT M. FERRER**

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DIRECT TESTIMONY OF ALBERT M. FERRER

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March 3, 2014

Q. Please state your name and business address.

A. My name is Albert M. Ferrer. My business address is 800 Kinderkamack Road, Oradell, New Jersey 07649.

Q. By whom are you employed and what is your position?

A. I am employed by Burns and Roe Enterprises, Inc. (BREI) as Vice President.

Q. Please describe your educational background and professional experience.

A. I hold an M.S. in Nuclear Engineering from New York University and a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Manhattan College, with honors. I have been a Vice President of BREI since 2005 providing management, executive leadership, and oversight for engineering consulting services performed by BREI.

Q. Please describe BREI.

A. BREI is an engineering, procurement, construction, operations, and maintenance company that provides services to private and governmental power industry clients worldwide.

1 BREI provides engineering, design and consulting services to the nuclear,
2 renewable and fossil power industry. Services provided include owner's
3 engineer, independent engineering, due diligence, acquisition services, uprate
4 analyses, life extension studies, engineering, design, procurement services and
5 construction (EPC) oversight, contract evaluation and EPC project
6 management.

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8 BREI's nuclear experience includes both some of the earliest U.S. commercial
9 nuclear power plants and some of the most recent and innovative nuclear
10 power projects. BREI has been involved in the design of eight commercial
11 nuclear power plants. Additionally, for the use of the U.S. Department of
12 Energy (DOE), BREI performed independent due diligence investigations for
13 new U.S. nuclear plants in support of the DOE's utility loan guarantee project
14 applications. BREI also participated in supporting the development of three
15 combined Construction and Operating License Applications for new nuclear
16 power plants in the southeast U.S.

17 **Q. What was your professional experience prior to BREI?**

18 A. Prior to my employment at BREI, I was Senior Vice President and Managing
19 Director for Stone and Webster, with responsibility for the firm's Strategic
20 Management, Markets and Regulatory, and Project Finance Services practices.
21 During my career at Stone and Webster, I held positions ranging from project
22 engineer to manager of major EPC power plant projects involving site
23 feasibility, environmental impact evaluations, conceptual engineering, detailed

1 design, procurement, cost and estimating, construction engineering,
2 construction management, and start up and testing of a variety of technologies
3 including coal plants, simple cycle and combined cycle gas plants, nuclear
4 plants, geothermal plants, and small hydro facilities. As a project engineer or
5 project manager, I was responsible for cost and scope control, planning,
6 coordinating, scheduling and supervising engineering activities for various
7 nuclear projects, as well as managing major subcontractors with large work
8 forces. I also provided expert testimony at hearings before the Nuclear
9 Regulatory Commission's (NRC) Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards
10 involving the construction permit process for nuclear plants.

11 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

12 A. The purpose of my testimony is to summarize an independent review
13 conducted by myself and other BREI senior nuclear power professionals under
14 my direction regarding Florida Power & Light Company's (FPL) execution of
15 the Extended Power Uprate (EPU) related activities during 2013. The purpose
16 of this independent due diligence review was to determine whether FPL's
17 execution of project activities in 2013 was reasonable and prudent. In
18 conducting the review, we applied the prudence standard that has been used
19 by the Florida Public Service Commission (Commission), which is whether
20 FPL's management actions and decisions were within the range of what a
21 reasonable utility manager would have done, in light of the conditions and
22 circumstances which were known, or should have been known, at the time the
23 decisions were made.

1 **Q. Please describe the major areas of your review.**

2 A. BREI reviewed the following areas:

- 3 • Project Implementation Scheduling and Organization;
- 4 • Close-out Engineering and Design Work Control Process;
- 5 • Outage Execution; and
- 6 • Close-out Execution.

7 **Q. Please summarize your testimony.**

8 A. Based on the review conducted by the team I lead, FPL's execution of project
9 activities in 2013 was reasonable and prudent. FPL's EPU project
10 management exhibited reasonable and prudent oversight of the EPU project,
11 including oversight of its contractors. Project close-out plans were well
12 developed, planned EPU work was completed on or close to schedule, and
13 power output increases exceeded engineering estimates. Overall, FPL's
14 performance was comparable to, or better than, other large construction
15 projects.

16 **Q. What is the basis for your conclusions regarding FPL's oversight of the**
17 **EPU project?**

18 A. My conclusions are based on my personal experience gained over the course
19 of my career managing major construction projects and large contracted work
20 forces, as well as my and my team's extensive review of EPU project
21 documentation and personnel interviews. My team was comprised of senior
22 level personnel with experience in nuclear power plant engineering, nuclear
23 plant licensing, nuclear power plant operations and project controls. Our

1 review built upon prior years' reviews, interviews, and site visits. We
2 reviewed project policies and procedures, technical reports, letters,
3 procedures, schedules, cost reports and other project documents. We also
4 reviewed performance metrics (such as key performance indicators), industrial
5 safety reports, corrective action reports, and periodic and special reports to
6 FPL management. In addition, BREI interviewed key EPU project personnel.

7 **Q. Please summarize the conclusions of BREI's review of the EPU project**
8 **plan, schedule, and organization.**

9 A. FPL prudently managed the EPU project planning and scheduling in 2013.
10 BREI reviewed the processes by which EPU project plans and schedules were
11 developed and revised and determined that FPL used robust project planning
12 and scheduling tools. Additionally, the EPU organization at FPL was
13 appropriately structured to manage the project in an efficient and thorough
14 manner in 2013.

15 **Q. Did BREI review FPL's plans for project close-out?**

16 A. Yes. FPL had developed EPU project close-out plans for both St. Lucie and
17 Turkey Point, including a plan for the disposal of spare or unneeded supplies
18 and equipment. BREI found that the plans addressed the critical elements of a
19 comprehensive close-out program. The plans established a roadmap to close
20 the project with reasonable goals and key milestone dates. They considered
21 lessons learned from other projects and the transition to non-EPU project
22 status.

1 **Q. Please summarize the conclusions of BREI's review of the execution of**
2 **the EPU outage at Turkey Point Unit 4 that was completed in 2013.**

3 A. FPL succeeded in completing the uprate of its fourth and final nuclear power
4 generating unit in 2013, as planned. Based upon our review, FPL prudently
5 managed the execution of this work. FPL and Bechtel scheduled
6 subcontractors and associated staff to support the outages and subsequently
7 demobilize in a controlled manner.

8
9 FPL management appropriately maintained a focus on safety during the
10 execution of the EPU work. FPL also focused on quality and human
11 performance. Bechtel continued to utilize FPL's corrective action program
12 and used it to track and trend issues and to implement corrective actions.
13 Where necessary, resources were added or activities were shifted to others to
14 assure schedules were met.

15 **Q. Did BREI review FPL's incorporation of lessons learned into its 2013**
16 **EPU activities?**

17 A. Yes. FPL prudently implemented various cost and time saving lessons learned
18 from the previous outages and closeout activities at Turkey Point and St.
19 Lucie, which have proven to be effective and appropriate. Examples include
20 improvements in the condenser installation sequence, main steam isolation
21 valve assembly process, and outsourcing the drawing update scope of work.
22 These enhancements reduced project cost and helped FPL complete its 2013
23 EPU project activities on schedule and under budget.

1 **Q. Please summarize the conclusions of BREI's review of project close-out**
2 **activities.**

3 A. FPL completed thousands of project close-out activities at both St. Lucie and
4 Turkey Point in 2013, including the methodical demobilization of a large
5 workforce and systematic turnover of the updated components to the plant
6 operating organization. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has high
7 expectations related to configuration management which includes the update
8 of final engineering documents, plant drawings, procedures, and other records
9 related to the safe operation of nuclear units. As part of the 2013 close-out
10 process, FPL updated over 40,000 drawings, design basis documents,
11 engineering evaluations, final safety analysis sections, specifications,
12 calculations, and equipment database changes. Based on our review, FPL's
13 close-out activities were performed reasonably and consistent with FPL's
14 close-out plans.

15 **Q. Please summarize your conclusions related to FPL's 2013 EPU project**
16 **activities.**

17 A. Overall, FPL's management of the EPU project was as good as, or better than,
18 the management of other comparable engineering projects. FPL achieved its
19 objective of completing the EPU project in 2013 by utilizing reliable project
20 planning techniques, effectively managing various separate contractors and a
21 large workforce, implementing lessons learned from prior outages in its final
22 EPU outage, and executing an effective close-out plan.

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1 The Commission should also be aware that FPL's EPU project won major
2 nuclear and construction industry awards. The EPU project won the 2013
3 Nuclear Energy Institute Top Industry Practice Award and the Power
4 Engineering magazine 2013 Project of the Year – Best Nuclear Project Award,
5 and was a finalist for the 2013 Platts "Construction Project of the Year"
6 Award. The significance of these awards is that FPL's performance of the
7 project was recognized as exemplary in the international nuclear and
8 construction industries.

9 **Q. Does this conclude your direct testimony?**

10 **A. Yes.**