

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Chip Merriam, Deputy Executive Director, Water Resources

DATE: June 15, 2009

SUBJECT: **A resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District authorizing transmittal of the District's Agency Report on the Florida Power and Light (FPL) Riviera Beach Energy Center to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection; providing an effective date (Palm Beach County)**

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of a Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District authorizing transmittal of the District's Agency Report to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection on the Application for Power Plant Site Certification for the FPL Riviera Beach Energy Center. The report recommends approval of FPL's request to continue to withdraw 6.169 MGM/37.318 MGY from the Surficial aquifer for landscape irrigation and water pump bearing cooling water, subject to certain conditions and restrictions. The existing Surficial aquifer withdrawals have been permitted by the District under permits 50-04187-W and 50-04188-W. Process, service, and potable water will continue to be provided by the City of Riviera Beach. Cooling water will continue to be obtained from the Intracoastal Waterway (Lake Worth Lagoon), which is exempt from the permitting requirements of Chapter 40E-2, F.A.C., since the chloride concentration is greater than the District's regulatory threshold for seawater (19,000 mg/l).

BACKGROUND

FPL is proposing to convert its existing \pm 46-acre Riviera Beach power plant into a new combined cycle power plant. The existing power plant site is located primarily in the City of Riviera Beach, south of and adjacent to the Port of Palm Beach. A small portion is located in the City of West Palm Beach. The new "3 on 1" combined cycle power plant, firing natural gas as a primary fuel and ultra low-sulfur light oil as a backup fuel, will be capable of producing over 100% more power than the existing plant (1,250 MW vs. 600 MW). The new plant is scheduled for operation in June, 2014.

Staff Contacts: **Jim Golden, Lead Planner, Environmental Resource Regulation (561-682-6862)**

Jim Harmon, Director, Water Use Division (561-682-6777)