RESOLUTION NO.: 2015-098

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HIALEAH, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVE TO HAVE A STUDY CONDUCTED ON THE COOLING CANAL SYSTEM AT THE TURKEY POINT POWER PLANT ABOUT ISSUES INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, SALINITY LEVELS, TEMPERATURE LEVELS, AND MIGRATION OF THE PLUME OF COOLING CANAL WATER IN GROUNDWATERS.

WHEREAS, the Mayor and the City Council of the City of Hialeah pledge their support for Miami-Dade County's legislative initiative to have a study conducted on the cooling canal system at the Turkey Point power plant, as outlined in Miami-Dade County Resolution No. R-517-15; and

WHEREAS, the Turkey Point power plant is located in south Miami-Dade County, adjacent to Biscayne National Park; and

WHEREAS, the Turkey Point power plant uses a great deal of water, much of which is associated with the Turkey Point power plant's cooling canal system; and

WHEREAS, this cooling canal system was constructed in the early 1970s to serve as a heat exchange for the power plant units at Turkey Point; and

WHEREAS, Florida Power and Light (FPL), the entity that owns and operates the Turkey Point power plant, has long-term monitoring data indicating that the water quality within the cooling canal system has deteriorated over time, with cooling canal salinities that are more than twice as high as what is typically found in Biscayne Bay; and

WHEREAS, the data also indicates that a hyper-saline plume of cooling canal water is migrating outside the boundaries of the cooling canal system through the groundwater; and

WHEREAS, FPL has reported that, due to these higher salinities and temperatures in the cooling canal system, the system is not working as it was intended; and

WHEREAS, FPL has obtained certain permissions to temporarily pump surface water from the L-32E canal into the cooling canal system in an attempt to improve water quality, but this may not be an acceptable long-term solution to the water-quality problems and may, in fact, negatively affect water resources in the surrounding area including groundwater, surface water, and Biscayne Bay; and

WHEREAS, having a better understanding of the causes of water quality problems within the cooling canal system, as well as the impact of the cooling canal system on the County's water resources, would be helpful for developing effective long-term solutions to reduce, eliminate, and correct these impacts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HIALEAH, FLORIDA, THAT:

Section 1. The foregoing facts and recitations contained in the preamble of this resolution are hereby adopted and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

Section 2. The Mayor and the City Council of the City of Hialeah, Florida pledge their support for Miami-Dade County's legislative initiative to have a study conducted on the cooling canal system at the Turkey Point power plant.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 11 day of August, 2015.

Isis Garcia-Martinez
Council President

Attest:

Approved on the 19 day of August, 2015.

Marbelys Fatjo, City Clerk

Mayor Carlos Hernandez

Approved as to legal sufficiency and form:

K.C.

Lorena E. Bravo, City Attorney

Resolution was adopted by a (7-0) unanimous vote with Councilmembers, Caragol, Casáls-Muñoz, Cue-Fuente, Garcia-Martinez, Gonzalez, Hernandez and Lozano voting "Yes".