



February 3, 2010

Mr. Michael P. Halprin, Program Administrator
Siting Coordination Office
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, MS 48
Tallahassee, FL 32399-3000

**RE: CFRPC Agency Report on the FPL EnergySecure Line Project
Natural Gas Pipeline Siting Application No. NG09-02**

Dear Mr. Halprin:

The Central Florida Regional Planning Council has reviewed the Florida EnergySecure Line Project, Natural Gas Transmission Pipeline Siting Application No. NG09-02.

A portion of the corridor for the proposed preferred natural gas pipeline project occurs on the northeast corner of Okeechobee County, east of the intersection of Osceola, Indian River, and Okeechobee counties at mile marker 220 on the pipeline corridor. In this area, the proposed pipeline corridor follows the corridor of an electrical power transmission line. The proposed corridor lies on the boundary between Indian River County and Okeechobee County, turning eastward following the county boundaries towards the Florida Turnpike.

This area appears to have been extensively ditched and the water elevations and drainage are controlled by large pumps, reservoirs, and other control structures. Therefore the natural drainages have been substantially impacted by prior agricultural development. The development of this pipeline may potentially impact five acres of wetlands in Okeechobee County, consisting of one acre of Hydric Pine Flatwoods and three acres of Mixed Wetland Hardwoods. The land use zoning in the area of the proposed pipeline corridors is agricultural. The proposed pipeline corridor should not have any adverse impact on agricultural activities in the area. Permitted uses within the agricultural zoning district include agricultural uses, and railroad, electric power or natural gas line right-of-ways.

In summary the proposed natural gas transmission line is not expected to have any substantial impacts to Okeechobee County natural resources or to Resources of Regional Significance. The CFRPC does not object to this project and does not have any proposed conditions of certification for the proposed corridor of the Florida EnergySecure Line.

If you need any additional information or have any questions, please contact me at (863) 534-7130 extension 178.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Codo-Salisbury, MPA, AICP
Director of Planning

cc: Ann Seiler, Florida Energy and Siting Office

