

FLORIDA KEYS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL

**Eco-Discovery Center, Key West
December 12, 2006**

M O T I O N S

- 1) Moved by Deborah Harrison, seconded David Hawtof, passed unanimously upon roll call vote.

That the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council resolves that:

Whereas, H.T. Pontin has been a constant participant in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Process since its inception; and

Whereas, H.T. Pontin has provided public comment to the Sanctuary Advisory Council for many years; and

Whereas, on this date H.T. Pontin was not in attendance to provide said public comment to the Sanctuary Advisory Council; and

Whereas, it came to the attention of the Sanctuary Advisory Council that this day was H.T. Pontin's 84th birthday which was the reason for his absence.

Therefore, the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council passed this resolution wishing H.T. Pontin a very Happy Birthday!

- 2) Moved by Deborah Harrison, seconded Jack Curlett, passed unanimously upon voice vote.

That the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council requests sanctuary managers invite Cecelia Weaver to take an official seat for agency representation on behalf of the South Florida Water Management District on the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council

- 3) Moved by Deborah Harrison, seconded by Chris Bergh, passed unanimously upon voice vote.

That the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council requests that sanctuary managers convey to Florida Department of Environmental Protection Secretary, Colleen Castille, a monumental THANK YOU for the leadership, commitment and dedication to securing the entirety of the Tortugas Ecological Reserve, from the mangrove fringe of Loggerhead Key through the nursery seagrass beds, beyond the country's most densely-covered corals and including the critical spawning areas of Riley's Hump. On behalf of this Council, our children and theirs, we express our deepest appreciation.

- 4) Moved by Deborah Harrison, seconded Richard Grathwohl, passed unanimously upon voice vote.

That the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council requests that sanctuary managers ask the FFWCC on its behalf for the opportunity to provide formal comment and consultation on any action that could result in the establishment of a pilot Program on the legislation of the use of artificial habitats within, or affecting, the resources of the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary.

- 5) Moved by Martin Moe, seconded Richard Grathwohl, passed unanimously upon roll call vote.

Resolution Of The Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council Expressing Concern On Proposed Coal Fired Power Plants And The Implications For The Survival Of Our Coral Reefs And the South Florida Environment if IGCC Technology is Not Used In Future Plant Construction

Whereas, power generation is the single most significant source of CO₂ in the United States, accounting for nearly 40% of CO₂ emission, and;

Whereas, coal is the most abundant, cheapest, and dirtiest fossil fuel available and the future of electrical generation is coal fired power plants, and;

Whereas, the United States Department of Energy says that 153 new coal fired plants will be built in the US by 2025, and;

Whereas, China will is expected to build 562 new coal fired plants and India is expected to build approximately 213 new coal fired plant over the next 8-25 years and;

Whereas, by 2012, the new coal plants in the US, China, and India combined will send an additional 2.7 billion tons of CO₂ into the atmosphere each year, and;

Whereas, John Holden, Professor of Environmental Policy at Harvard, predicts that if all the coal fired plants scheduled to be built over the next 25 years are built, the CO₂ emissions from these plants combined after 50 years will equal all the emissions from coal burning in all of human history to date, and;

Whereas, all this CO₂ could trigger an average global temperature rise of 10 Degrees F by 2100, causing rise of sea levels of 1.5 feet during this century with the possibility of catastrophic rises of 20 feet due to rapid break up of land based polar icecaps, and;

Whereas, 1.5 degrees Celsius rise in ocean temperatures could cause 95 percent of corals to die and concomitant increasing ocean acidity could doom some of the ocean's smallest organisms which form the base of the marine food chain and cause dramatic changes to the coral reef ecosystem as we know it know, and;

Whereas, there is new clean, efficient base-load electric power generation technology for building coal fired electric plants called Integrated Gasification Combination Cycle (IGCC) which merges gasification with gas cleaning, synthesis gas conversion, and turbine power technologies to produce clean and affordable energy, and;

Whereas, this integration of energy conversion processes provides more complete utilization of energy resources, offering high efficiencies and ultra-low pollution levels and ultimately will be capable of reaching efficiencies of 60 percent with near-zero pollution, and;

Whereas, power plants with IGCC do not burn coal directly but they transform it to gas first and then burn the gas and virtually all the Mercury, Nitrogen oxide, and sulfur dioxide, and CO₂ can be scrubbed and removed from the emissions of the plant, and;

Whereas, there 4 such power plants in the world today, the first ever of its kind is near Tampa, Florida, the Polk Power Station which began commercial operations in Sept. 1996 and was built in partnership with Tampa Electric Company and the U.S. Department of Energy, and;

Whereas, roughly the cost of capturing and sequestering CO₂ is \$100 a ton, while the cost of removing 2.5 billion tons of CO₂ would be 250 billion dollars (not an unreasonable amount considering the value of our environment), and;

Whereas, FP&L has proposed two new 980 MW coal-fired electrical generating units for a 4,900 acre site 5 miles northwest of Moore Haven in Glades County, the largest new coal-fired generating units in the United States and the first major coal-fired power plant in South Florida, and

Whereas, these proposed coal-fired generating units are not IGCC plants but will use super-pulverized coal with wet scrubbers for sulfur-dioxide control and selective catalytic reduction equipment for controlling nitrogen oxide emissions will emit in the range of 10 to 15 Million tons of CO₂ each year, and ;

Whereas, the two new coal-fired units would produce large quantities of emissions of Nitrogen Oxides, Sulfur Dioxides, Mercury, and Particulate Matter, each of which can cause unhealthy air and water pollution and reductions in visibility in Big Cypress and Everglades National Park, and;

Whereas, the two new coal-fired units would be the largest source of carbon dioxide emissions in Florida at a time when concentrations of CO₂ in the atmosphere are increasing dramatically making Florida particularly vulnerable to the dual effects of global warming, coral bleaching and death, sea level rise and more intense hurricanes, and;

Therefore, The FKNMS Advisory Council resolves that given the critical current situation that emissions of CO2 by our civilizations pose to the climate and especially the sensitive environment of the Florida Keys and South Florida and that the FKNMS through the FKNMS and Protection Act has the responsibility to protect and preserve living and other resources of the Florida Keys marine environment, and that we have only a very short window of time to prevent total climate disaster and that there are current plans to place two new very large coal fired units in South Florida, that:

1. We request FP&L make a presentation to the SAC and explain how the development of future power plants can be designed and built to best safeguard our environment.
 2. We strongly recommend that future coal fired power plants that are built in South Florida utilize IGCC technology and CO2 sequestering to safeguard our terrestrial and marine environments.
- 6) Moved by Deborah Harrison, seconded by Chris Bergh, passed unanimously upon voice vote.

That the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council requests that sanctuary managers recommend to the Monroe County Board of Council Commissioners that they urgently consider the purchase of the Gulf Seafood site for the preservation of the commercial fishing industry and associated traditional way of life in Key West and the Lower Florida Keys.