



MIAMI-DADE
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

"Providing a World of Business Opportunities"

Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Gimenez

March 27, 2018

Office of the Mayor

Stephen P. Clark Center
111 N.W. 1st Street, 29th Floor
Miami, Florida 33128

To Mayor Carlos Gimenez:

As the President & CEO of the Miami-Dade Chamber of Commerce, I often discuss the importance of our organization's sustainability. In order to maintain our status as a useful resource for the community, we must sustain our membership and continue to grow. This line of thinking is applicable not only to The Chamber, but to the community as a whole. Sustainability is required for any community to thrive. At this moment in time, there is a very specific form of sustainability we need— the ability to keep our coastal waters clean.

Your partnership with Florida Power & Light to explore the possibility of cleaning and reusing water in southern Miami-Dade County is commendable. This project has the potential to achieve two goals – recycling and reusing up to 60 million gallons of water per day, and improving the quality of the Turkey Point Nuclear Power Plant's cooling canals.

Every day, more than 100 million gallons of waste water make its way into Biscayne Bay. That is simply not sustainable. Our state government made the correct decisions in ordering counties to comply with a mandate to recycle and reuse that water rather than sending it out to sea.

Through the "Advanced Reclaimed Water Project," the Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department and Florida Power and Light will work to develop a comprehensive plan to clean up nearly 60 million gallons, treat it, and reuse it each day. This approach will reduce the serious threat of ocean outfall on our local water supply, while also improving our coastal water and the marine ecosystem on the Bay.

I applaud your collaboration with FPL as I truly believe it will enhance our environmental sustainability. As The Chamber's President, I am also encouraged by the possibility of retaining well-paying jobs at Turkey Point and possibly creating new employment opportunities during the construction phase of the water treatment plant.

We have urged the Miami-Dade County commissioners to approve the project and are proud to support your involvement. It will be good for our county's economy and a step in the right direction toward environmental sustainability.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Eric Knowles', written over a white background.

G. Eric Knowles
President & CEO
Miami-Dade Chamber of Commerce