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By Electronic Filing

April 29, 2008

Ms. Kimberly D. Bose
Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, N.E.
Washington, DC 20426

Re: Response to Public Comment
Floridian Natural Gas Storage Company, LLC
FERC Docket No. CP08-13-000

Dear Ms. Bose:

In connection with the Application of Floridian Natural Gas Storage Company, LLC ("FGS") for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to construct, own and operate a new natural gas storage facility filed on October 31, 2007 in the above-referenced docket, FGS hereby files the following in response to a citizen comment made at the April 16, 2008 public meeting suggesting that local residents do not know about the FGS Project:

- 1) A list of FGS community outreach efforts for the period from June 2006 to present, including public notices, open houses, site visits, public meetings with local officials and stakeholders, participation in local events and news articles.
- 2) A compendium of local news articles (Palm Beach Post, Stuart News, and Indiantown News) about FGS during the period from November 2006 to present, including two front-page stories in the Indiantown News and an editorial in support of the FGS Project in the local county paper.

FGS's Response contains only Public material and FGS is making this filing electronically. Electronic copies of this filing are being sent by email to all parties to this proceeding, as well as to the persons identified below.

DICKSTEINSHAPIRO_{LLP}

Ms. Kimberly D. Bose

April 29, 2008

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If you have any questions about any of these submissions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 420-2745 or Beth Webb at (202) 420-4782.

Sincerely,



Joan M. Darby

Enclosures

cc: All Parties
Sheila Hernandez, FERC
Charles Brown, FERC
Barbara Mohrman, ERM
Tim Gray, Florida Department of Environmental Protection
John Wrublik, US Fish and Wildlife Service
Ted Walden, US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4
Eric Reusch, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Tom Colios, South Florida Water Management District
Joseph Walsh, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

1) List of FGS Community Outreach Efforts

Floridian Natural Gas Storage Company -- Community Outreach

June 2006 Initial meetings with Martin County business development officials to begin site search

Oct 30 - Nov 2 06 Initial meetings with county commissioners and county staff

Nov 2006 Project website goes up -- website receives average of 665 unique visits a month from this date forward

Nov 15 -17 06 Meet with multiple county stakeholders

Nov 16 2006 Palm Beach Post article introduces project (Palm Beach Post is large metropolitan paper covering Martin Co.)

Nov 16 2006 Presentation to Development Review Committee in Martin County Council Chambers (meeting open to public)

Nov 16 2006 Meet with Indiantown community leaders

Nov 17 2006 Stuart News article (Stuart News is daily paper of record for all of Martin County)

Nov 19 2006 Stuart News article on re-use of Superfund sites includes project info

Dec 2006 Treasure Coast Business Journal article -- front page profile of project principal Brad Williams

Dec 7 2006 Stuart News article

Dec 9 2006 Participated in annual Indiantown holiday parade

Dec 14 2006 Met with Martin County Sheriff's Office Indiantown leadership team

Dec 18 2006 Met with representative of Centex Homes (neighboring land developer) and Tammy Simoneau, Economic Council director

Dec 19 2006 Met with Indiantown Chamber of Commerce director, board member and board member of neighboring Indianwood community

Dec 20 2006 Met with Brian Powers, chair of Indiantown Neighborhood Advisory Committee

Jan 2007 Florida Trend mentions project in business briefs

Jan 5 2007 Mailed 26 certified letters to all neighboring property owners, notifying them of the Jan. 24 project open house

Jan 14 2007 Ran 1/4-page paid advertisements in Stuart News and Palm Beach Post inviting public to Jan 24 open house

Jan 17 2007 Presentation to Indiantown Chamber of Commerce board of directors

Jan 17 2007 Met with Dave Baldwin, manager of neighboring Louis Dreyfus Citrus plant

Jan 17 2007 Met with Gary Willer, manager of neighboring Indiantown Cogeneration plant

Jan 17 2007 Met with Rick Drum, manager of neighboring Bay State Milling plant

Jan 17 2007 Met with Martin County Sheriff's Office Homeland Security and Environmental Officer

Jan 18 2007 Ran 1/4-page paid advertisement in Indiantown News inviting public to Jan 24 open house

Jan 18 2007 Project representative posted flyers throughout Indiantown announcing upcoming open house (English and Spanish language)

Jan 22 2007 Stuart News runs article in advance of project-sponsored open house

Jan 24 2007 Held open house for Indianwood community residents at Indianwood Community Center

Jan 24 2007 Held open house for all Indiantown residents at the Indiantown Civic Center (had Spanish language interpreters available)

Jan 25 2007 Palm Beach Post article

Jan 25 2007 Presentation to Indiantown Chamber of Commerce membership

Jan 26 2007 Short presentation on project made at Indiantown Chamber of Commerce annual dinner

Jan 26 2007 Met with Martin County Commissioner Lee Weberman

Jan 26 2007 Met with Martin County Commissioner Doug Smith

Jan 26 2007 Met with Martin County Commission Chair Michael DiTerizzi

Feb 1 2007 Indiantown News runs extensive front-page article on project (Indiantown News is small, free weekly covering Indiantown)

Feb 6 - 9 07 Follow-up meetings with industrial neighbors (Cogentrix, BayState Milling, Louis Dreyfus, Tampa Farms)

Feb 12 & 13 07 Attended Treasure Coast Legislative Conference

Feb 13 2007 Briefed Business Development Board of Martin County officers John Leighton and Peter Kemp on project

Feb 13 2007 Met with Martin County Director of Emergency Services Jon Pasqualone

Feb 13 2007 Meeting with Rep. William Snyder in Tallahassee -- introduce project

Feb 14 2007 Meeting with Rep. Richard Machek in Tallahassee -- introduce project
 Feb 14 2007 Meeting with Rep. Gayle Harrell in Tallahassee -- introduce project
 Feb 19 2007 Met with Charles Holtzhower, director of neighboring Tampa Farms
 Feb 20 2007 Attended county-wide council of chambers meeting, briefly introduced project to US Rep. Tim Mahoney
 Feb 21 2007 Attended Indiantown Chamber of Commerce breakfast
 March 1 2007 Stuart News runs brief article in advance of FERC site visit and scoping meeting
 March 2 2007 Palm Beach Post brief runs article in advance of FERC site visit and scoping meeting
 March 7 2007 FERC site visit and scoping meeting in Indiantown
 March 8 2007 Presentation to Palm City Chamber of Commerce membership
 March 9 2007 Stuart News article
 March 12 2007 Palm Beach Post article
 March 18 2007 Stuart News writes editorial supporting project
 April 9 2007 Representatives met with County Commission Chair Michael DiTerlizzi regarding project
 April 11 2007 Met with representatives from Indian River College and Workforce Development on welding training program
 April 18 2007 Met with Martin County economist Cesar Perez
 April 18 2007 Updated Indiantown Chamber of Commerce Board on project
 April 18 2007 Met with officials from Indiantown YMCA regarding special program for teens
 May 10 2007 Updated Palm City Chamber and Economic Council directors on project's progress
 May 10 2007 Met with Greg Vaday of Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council
 May 11 2007 Met with neighboring landowner Kirk Lazaruk (proposed residential development of Irongate)
 June 3 2007 Met with Eve Samples, Palm Beach Post Business Reporter
 June 4 2007 Met with Ron Bunch, director of Business Development Board of Martin County
 June 4 2007 Update meeting with Martin County Emergency Services personnel
 June 5 2007 Presentation to Economic Council of Martin County membership
 June 5 2007 Phone interview with Hugo Ottolenghi, Stuart News Business Editor
 June 5 2007 Presentation to Indiantown Neighborhood Advisory Committee
 June 6 2007 Palm Beach Post article
 June 6 2007 Stuart News article
 June 20 2007 Met with Rep. William Snyder to update him on project progress
 June 20 2007 Met with Sister Teresa Aua of InDios -- a charitable program focused on Indiantown's Hispanic residents
 June 20 2007 Met with Martin County Local Planning Agency member Sandy Zweben
 June 21 2007 Met with Martin County Local Planning Agency member George Hine
 June 21 2007 Met with Martin County Local Planning Agency member Frank Wacha
 June 21 2007 Indiantown News runs extensive front-page article on project
 July 12 & 13 07 Participated in Miami Climate Change Conference
 July 18 2007 Sent letter to Martin County Commissioner Sarah Heard (she had not responded to request to meet personally)
 Aug 14 2007 Met with Kristi Swartz, Palm Beach Post Energy Writer
 Aug 16 2007 Follow-up meeting with Martin County development review team (this meeting was open to public)
 Aug 16 2007 Met with Gabe Margasak, Stuart News Environment Reporter
 Aug 16 2007 Met with Martin County Fire Rescue Chief regarding equipment and training funding request
 Aug 16 2007 Updated director of Economic Council of Martin County on project progress
 Aug 16 2007 Updated Indiantown Chamber of Commerce Board on project
 Oct 2 2007 Met with representatives from Florida Atlantic University regarding project
 Oct 16 - 17 07 Meetings with local community leaders and representatives from neighboring Tampa Farms
 Oct 17 2007 Visit Indiantown and Palm City Schools

October 30 2007 Meeting with neighboring Cogentrix officials
 Oct 31 2007 Stuart News runs advance article on Indiantown Job Fair, includes project information
 Nov 1 2007 Met with Chris Sorenson, Martin County Local Planning Agency Member
 Nov 1 2007 Met with Jim Moir, Martin County Local Planning Agency Member
 Nov 1 2007 Manned information booth about project at Indiantown Job Fair
 Nov 15 2007 Large legal advertisement ran in Stuart News notifying public of project's FERC application
 Nov 17 2007 Large legal advertisement repeated in Stuart News notifying public of project's FERC application
 Nov 26 2007 Participated in conference call with Indian River College representatives on welding training program
 Nov 27-28 07 Meetings with local landowners; Duncan Ballantyne, Martin County Administrator and an Economic Development staff member
 Nov 29 2007 Presented project update to Indiantown Chamber of Commerce membership
 Jan 26 2007 Brief project update was given during attendance at Indiantown annual chamber dinner
 Dec 1 2007 Participated in annual Indiantown holiday parade
 Dec 4 - 7 07 Meetings with County Attorney Steve Frye; local community group leaders
 Dec 4 2007 Met with Mike Brown, Sr., National City Bank Regional President
 Dec 5 2007 FERC site visit
 Dec 6 2007 Participated in all-agency meeting in West Palm Beach
 Jan 10 2008 Presented to Martin County Local Planning Agency (televised on cable), received unanimous positive recommendation
 Jan 26 2008 Provided brief project update to Indiantown Chamber membership at annual dinner
 Feb 6 - 8 08 Meetings with Indiantown Chamber of Commerce board members and other community leaders
 Feb 15 2008 State Dept. of Environmental Protection runs legal ad for Notice of Intent to Issue Air Construction Permit in Stuart News
 Feb 18 2008 Participated in conference call with Indian River College representatives on welding training program
 Feb 19 2008 State Dept. of Environmental Protection runs legal ad for Notice of Intent to Issue Permit in Stuart News
 Feb 20-22 07 Attended Treasure Coast Legislative Conference
 Feb 21 2008 Met with Rep. Gayle Harrell in Tallahassee to update her on project progress
 Feb 21 2008 Met with Rep. Richard Machek in Tallahassee to update him on project progress
 Feb 27 2008 Attended Indiantown Chamber of Commerce membership meeting
 Mar 6 2008 Met with Martin County Commissioner Susan Valliere
 Mar 6 2008 Brief project update was given during attendance at Indiantown YMCA art auction
 March 24 - 26 08 Site visit and update meetings with local business owners and residents
 April 7 2008 Palm Beach Post runs article on Martin County projects in development pipeline, includes project information
 April 16 2008 Attended Economic Council luncheon, discussed project with community leaders informally
 April 16 2008 FERC DEIS hearing in Indiantown
 April 17 2008 Stuart News article on FERC DEIS hearing
 April 17 2008 Palm Beach Post article on FERC DEIS hearing

2) Compendium of Local News Articles about FGS

Texas firm plans to build natural gas storage plant

By Eve Samples

Palm Beach Post Staff Writer

Thursday, November 16, 2006

STUART — A newly formed Texas company run by two energy-industry veterans is pushing to build the state's first natural gas storage plant at a long-vacant Superfund site in Indiantown.

Citing a projected increase in demand for the fuel, Floridian Natural Gas Storage LLC hopes to open an above-ground storage tank on 145 acres at the old Florida Steel site by 2011, giving the state's gas and power companies a place to keep natural gas until it's needed during high-demand period.

The gas would be converted to liquid form for storage and then reconverted to gas when needed.

"They buy low-cost gas, deliver it to our facility. We warehouse it until they need it," J. Bradley Williams, one of the company's two principals, said Wednesday.

The \$225 million plant ultimately would employ 15 to 20 people, and if demand is strong enough, the firm may open a second storage tank in coming years, Williams said.

Floridian Natural Gas incorporated in Delaware in August, but its operations are based in The Woodlands, Texas. Williams has worked for Mobil Oil, Enron, Entergy and, most recently, Juno Beach-based FPL Group Inc. (NYSE: FPL, \$52.53), where he concentrated on natural gas.

His business partner, David Sharp, has been in the energy business for 30 years and worked with Shell on importing liquefied natural gas to the United States.

The Indiantown project is the first venture of Floridian Natural Gas, and Williams said the international investment firm Warburg Pincus would be a major investor.

The Florida Steel mill where the firm is proposing the project has been out of use for about 24 years - since it was first included on the federal government's list of seriously polluted Superfund sites. It sits just east of Florida's two natural gas pipelines: the Gulfstream pipeline and Florida Gas Transmission.

Floridian Natural Gas has an option to buy the property from Tampa-based Gerdau Ameristeel Corp., which put it on the market in October 2005 for \$9.1 million. Williams and Sharp declined to reveal the purchase price.

Since 1983, Gerdau Ameristeel has spent about \$16 million removing and treating contaminated soil and groundwater on the property, and a 5-acre landfill remains there.

Brian Powers, an Indiantown native and president of Indiantown Gas Co., said bringing new industry to the rural area would help erase the stigma of the Superfund site.

"This is a good, clean industry, and it's a quiet industry," he said. "And it's certainly less intense than the steel mill was. So I look at it and think this is a good deal."

Powers said he has had informal talks with the firm but said no decision had been made about whether it would make sense for his small company to become a customer. Williams declined to say whether he has any customers lined up for the site.

As for safety, Williams said the project would be subject to intense scrutiny from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. About 100 similar plants exist around the country.

The big benefits, Williams said, are that the project would provide a continuous supply of natural gas to Florida during interruptions in the Gulf of Mexico, and it could let utilities pass on cost savings by allowing them to stock up while the fuel is cheap.

Florida Power & Light Co. spokeswoman Pat Davis said the utility, a division of FPL Group, now gets its natural gas directly from pipelines. Last year, about 42 percent of the utility's energy was produced using natural gas.

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Indiantown natural gas storage tank first of its kind in Florida

By **GEORGE ANDREASSI**
george.andreassi@scripps.com
November 17, 2006

INDIANTOWN — A Houston firm wants to build a big natural gas storage tank on the old Florida Steel Superfund site to help utility companies throughout Florida hedge against hurricane-related fuel supply disruptions and seasonal fuel price spikes.

The \$225 million project is expected to open in 2011, Bradley Williams of Floridian Natural Gas Storage Co., said Thursday. It will hold enough natural gas to provide electricity to 2 million households and businesses for 10 days. The goal is to keep prices stable for companies and in turn consumers, Williams said.

"This is a form of insurance," Williams said while presenting the preliminary plans for the project to the Martin County Development Review Committee during a meeting at the county Administrative Center.

Power and gas companies can buy natural gas at a low price and store it in the tank until prices rise, such as during the winter heating season up north or the summer hurricane season, Williams said. That's when the companies can tap into their reserves.

The proposed tank would receive natural gas from the Gulfstream and Florida Gas Transmission pipelines, which are 3 1/2 miles away, Williams said.

It would be the first facility of its kind in Florida, Williams said. There are more than 100 similar facilities nationwide.

In addition to Florida Power & Light Co., which has a large plant near Indiantown, Williams said officials hope the facility serves gas-fired power plants expected to open throughout the state in the next several years.

"Demand for natural gas in Florida is going way up, primarily for power generation," Williams said. "This is a technology that is well tested, that is safe."

Martin County Fire Marshal Jon Pasqualone said storage facilities are safe, but transmission of the gas through pipelines is more risky.

"You have back hoe operators that go out and dig a hole in the ground, they hit a pipe and it ignites," Pasqualone said. "That's a real threat potential."

Williams said the company plans to set up community meetings in the nearby Booker Park neighborhood to explain the project.

The plans for the project face review by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in Washington, said Terry McCarthy, a lawyer representing Floridian Natural Gas Storage.

The U.S. Department of Environmental Protection has determined the site is ready to be reused, federal records show.

A steel mill operated on the site from 1970 until 1982, recycling old cars into steel reinforced bars for concrete. About 100,000 tons of soil contaminated with lead, zinc, and polychlorinated biphenyl's was placed in a double-lined landfill at the site in 1996, federal records show. The treatment of contaminated ground water on the site is expected to be completed soon.

Location: 18300 Warfield Boulevard, west of Booker Park in Indiantown.

Site size: 145 acres.

Tank height: 190 feet.

Tank radius: 285 feet.

Target opening date: 2011.

Project cost: \$225 million.

Anticipated property tax bill: \$1.5 million.

IN OTHER BUSINESS

- Endorsed plans to add 23,466 square feet of space to the Treasure Coast Square mall in Jensen Beach. The plans call for five new stores at the northeast mall entrance and a 441-square foot

expansion of Mayors Jewelers at the easterly mall entrance. The County Commission has final say on the plans.

- Critiqued preliminary plans submitted by H & L Marine Developers of Stuart for a building on Westfield Avenue in Rocky Point that would contain two two-bedroom rental units and an office with storage.

- Delayed final review until Dec. 7 for a site plan for the expansion of the American Custom Yachts facilities on the Okeechobee Waterway between Florida's Turnpike and Interstate 95.

Floridian Gas Storage Co.: <http://www.floridiangasstorage.com/> EPA's Florida Steel Superfund: www.epa.gov/region4/waste/npl/nplfs/flastfl.htm

Superfund sites become major boon to Martin County

By George Andreassi
Stuart News Staff Writer
November 19, 2006

Cleaned up after lying unused for decades, federal Superfund sites near Indiantown and in Port Salerno are being redeveloped, sending their appraised values through the roof and enhancing Martin County's tax base.

"Certainly, as both of them have been cleaned up, they are definitely going up in value," said Assistant County Property Appraiser Mike Fribourg. When the properties still had toxic waste on them, they had relatively little value because of the cleanup costs.

The cleanup of the Florida Steel Superfund site on Warfield Boulevard increased the value of the property to \$3 million this year from \$16,000 in 2005, Fribourg said. And the value of the 145-acre site is expected to climb to \$7 million next year.

Two Houston energy industry veterans last week unveiled plans for a massive natural gas storage tank on the property that they estimate will be worth \$225 million upon completion in 2011.

Meanwhile, the redevelopment of the old Solitron Microwave Superfund site into the Port Salerno Industrial Park is in full swing with the infrastructure under construction. As a result, the value of the 20-acre property has increased to more than \$1 million this year, almost four times what it was worth in 2003, Fribourg said.

One of the developers, Janet Kozan, said the first lot has been sold and work is expected to start in 2007 on an office-warehouse. But Kozan said she did not know how fast the other six lots would sell in the softening real estate market. As the lots are developed, the overall value of the industrial park will increase, Fribourg said.

The dramatically increasing value of the old Superfund sites is good for Martin County's tax base, said Commissioner Lee Weberman, whose district includes the Florida Steel property.

The Floridian Natural Gas Storage principals estimate the storage tank will generate \$1.5 million in property taxes per year. "If it's that kind of money, that's a big benefit for the county," Weberman said. "You would rather see these Superfund sites be used for something than to lie dormant."

Florida Steel closed its Indiantown plant in 1982, federal records show. The site was contaminated with zinc, lead and polychlorinated biphenyls. It cost nearly \$8 million to

clean up the toxic waste, said Laura Niles, a spokeswoman for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The Solitron Microwave electronics factory, which was contaminated with copper and tetrachloroethene, closed in 1987, federal records show. It cost about \$4 million to clean up the toxic waste.

The companies that caused the pollution helped pay for the clean ups, said Bill Denman, a Superfund reuse coordinator with the EPA. "EPA is very interested in facilitating the redevelopment of Superfund sites," Denman said. "The value of these properties now as far as their taxable value has gone way up, so that will be a financial benefit to the county as far as property taxes are concerned."

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Page 1 story

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Q&A

Indiantown could be natural gas storage site

BY HUGO H. OTTOLENGHI
hugo.ottolenghi@scripps.com

The state's first natural gas storage site could wind up on the Treasure Coast. A group of veteran energy executives wants to plunk down the above-ground tank in Indiantown among the industrial plants on the west side Warfield Boulevard.

Why here and why now?

Geography and opportunity. The state's two big natural gas pipelines reach the southern end of their run at the nearby Florida Power & Light energy generation plant. The organizers want to tap into those lines to receive, liquefy and store natural gas for energy-producing customers.

Utilities would warehouse gas in the company's 185-foot tank and draw on it to meet peak demand

Floridian Natural Gas Storage principal J. Bradley Williams talked about the economic need for the project and what it might mean to the area.

Q. What would your tank give the utilities that they can't get now?

A. There are a lot of power plants under construction now that are going to come on line in the next few years. Our plant will fit into the expansion plans of the utilities.

Q. Is the site open now?

A. The site is under continuing remediation. Because it's close to the end of the process, the Environmental Protection Agency said this piece of property still has restricted land use, but is available. The owner, now known as Gerdaun Ameristeel Corp., listed the property and the EPA gave us the OK for this type of use.

A Superfund site has some challenges. The good news is that we know what the contamination is, we know what the remediation plan is and there have been a lot of holes dug on this property to investigate the matter. So, sometimes, it's better the devil you know. We have spent a lot of time with the EPA on what the site is and making sure that we can live with the limitations.

At this point, we still have to get a permit from Martin County, from the state department of environmental protection and most important a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission certificate. It regulates plants like this. We're preparing the application and make that early next year.

Beyond that, we need to run a pipe north on Warfield Boulevard about four miles to FP&L's facility. Because we have 150 acres, we have a lot of greenbelt to use as a buffer. The actual footprint of the plant is only 50 acres.

Q. Is this the first project of this kind for you and your partners?

A. The team has built other projects. The last plant built by our engineering and construction company is in North Carolina. This is a new company to build and operate this project in Florida.

Q. What will it take to get the plant up and running?

A. About \$225 million to get it permitted and constructed. We would hope to be online for the summer of 2011. To build these tanks, because they are so highly engineered, takes almost three years. Our goal is that we build, own and operate it.

Q. How did you and your partners get to this project?

A. Early in my career, I was an engineer, building pipelines. From that I got into the energy buying-and-selling business. And then I spent seven years

overseas doing infrastructure development - power plants and pipelines - and came back to the United States to work for large energy companies.

David Sharp, another principal, has also worked for energy firms.

We saw an opportunity to build a project like this in Florida because demand for energy was increasing. Three years ago, we would not have been doing this. But because there is so much new power generation that runs on gas, the timing is right.

Q. Where did you get the money for this project?

A. We are private company with private funding. One of equity partners is Warburg Pincus, a large firm that invests in energy infrastructure. We knew the firm from a previous transaction and was enthusiastic.

We're not looking to put this \$225 million into the rate base of the utilities. We're willing to put up that private capital up at risk. We wouldn't do that unless we had a lot of interest from potential customers.

Q. So have utilities have expressed in this type of facility?

A. We have talked to large and small companies in the state and they are all interested.



Williams

Q. How will Indiantown benefit from this project? Will there be a direct or indirect boost to the economy?

A. This site has been a blight to the community for some time. This is a clean industry that puts an otherwise useless piece of property back on its tax rolls. It also provides jobs.

The tank is a specialized piece of equipment. But for the buildings, the parking lot, the landscaping and earthwork, the goal is to use as much local talent as we can. This is going to be a long project so there will be an opportunity for a lot of people to learn a trade. Hopefully, that will work out.

Q. But this probably won't be a big employer like the nearby juice plant and mill.

A. We would employ probably about 20 full-time people because the plant would be open 24 hours a day.

Q. What are the energy implications here? Will utilities rely more on natural gas and less on sources such as coal?

A. It's not a reduced reliance if you look at how much more energy-producing capacity is getting constructed. The majority of that is coal fired. There will have to be another four or five coal-burning plants going up.

Companies like FP&I, Florida Progress and Tampa Electric have signed up for all the capacity in the two natural gas lines that feed the state. We're building a project that would bring an incremental supply that would help to meet the peak-day needs. It's an insurance project.

Florida right now doesn't have any natural gas storage. There are propane, butane and fuel oil storage sites. This would be the first for natural gas. We would start with one tank and if the market needed more storage we would build a second one.

This is a concept used in other parts of the country, usually for winter peaking when temperatures hit seasonal lows. We're taking that concept and bringing that to Florida for a summer peak.

Q. So the plant is for those hot, hot days?

A. With storage in the state of Florida, if there were an interruption in the flow of gas due to a hurricane, we could give gas to the utility companies to get the power back on.

Q. Should we be concerned that something might happen at the plant that could put the public in danger?

A. This is a tested technology. It's been safe for 60 years. This is also used all over the world.

Natural gas is lighter than air. Propane and butane are heavier than air. Our storage facility is at atmospheric pressure, which means it's like a giant thermos bottle.

By comparison, a butane tank is under high pressure. We liquefy the natural gas not through high pressure, but through temperature. We refrigerate the natural gas to minus 260 degrees, where it becomes a liquid.

We then pour it into the top of the tank like a thermos and it just sits there.

As to the plant's location, we are not in the 100-year Flood plain.

Q. Did you look at other sites than the Treasure Coast?

A. We looked over Florida for access to both pipes. We need to be at the end of the pipeline so that on a peak day we can deliver gas that flows north and serve the biggest parts of the state. At this Martin County site, we can tap into both lines.

We fit into the land use plan. The site was the old Florida Steel Products site that was closed about 20 years ago and it became a Superfund site due to pollution.

WILLIAMS' FAVORITES

TV show: "CSI Miami." I love mysteries, and that's a murder-mystery in one hour.

Ice cream: Chocolate. Rich, deep chocolate.

Meal: A good ribeye steak.

Vacation: Skiing with my family in Colorado.

Free time activity: My wife and I like cooking together, and meals with friends.

Movie stars: Cameron Crowe. My favorite of all time is Burt Lancaster.

Books: "The Da Vinci Code," by Dan Brown.

