

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:  
APPROPRIATIONS  
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SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE  
SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

September 8, 2017

The Honorable Rick Perry  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Ave., SW  
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Secretary Perry:

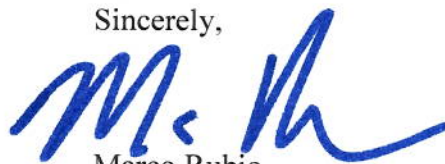
As Floridians prepare for potentially devastating impacts from Hurricane Irma, I write to urge the Department of Energy to do everything in its power to ensure the availability of fuel and energy resources throughout the state before and soon as possible after the storm by working closely with the state of Florida and your federal agency partners, including: the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Department of Homeland Security, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the Department of Transportation, and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Maintaining ample supplies of gasoline and diesel for distribution and use by consumers across Florida and along evacuation routes is critical to ensuring an effective public evacuation process and minimizing risk to coastal residents and first responders. Additionally, the quick and safe restoration of electricity and natural gas supplies to impacted communities will be an important step in reassuring residents of the government's ability to respond to their needs and returning a semblance of normalcy to their lives. Finally, I ask that you immediately take all necessary measures with Florida Power & Light in your approach to preparations, security, assessment, and emergency response at the Turkey Point and St. Lucie Nuclear Plants. Ensuring public safety must be the top priority in dealing with the threat Hurricane Irma poses at both of these facilities.

The availability of energy resources will play a tremendous role in the ability and confidence of Floridians to respond to this potentially catastrophic situation. I thank you in advance for your efforts to marshal all of your department's resources and efforts into a comprehensive response that will help save lives and promote a more efficient and effective recovery.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Marco Rubio  
U.S. Senator