

December 18, 2003

Mr. Don Klima, Director  
Office of Federal Agency Programs  
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation  
Old Post Office Building  
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 809  
Washington, DC 20004

SUBJECT: EARLY SITE PERMIT REVIEW FOR THE CLINTON SITE

Dear Mr. Klima:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff is reviewing an application for an early site permit (ESP) submitted by Exelon Generation Company, LLC (Exelon) on September 25, 2003. An ESP allows an applicant to set aside a site for potential future construction of one or more new nuclear power plants, and provides the opportunity to resolve site safety and environmental issues before construction begins. An ESP does not allow actual construction of a nuclear plant, which must be requested through another application. The ESP site proposed by Exelon is on property co-located with the existing Clinton Power Station site near the town of Clinton in DeWitt County, Illinois. The application was submitted by Exelon pursuant to NRC requirements at Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 52 (10 CFR Part 52).

Exelon has also included a site redress plan in its application in accordance with 10 CFR 52.17(c) and 52.25. If a site redress plan is included in an ESP approved by the NRC, the applicant may carry out certain site preparation and limited construction activities. Exelon would still be required to obtain the appropriate local, State, and other Federal permits required for these activities prior to starting work.

As part of its review of the application, the NRC staff will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) pursuant to 10 CFR Part 51, the NRC regulations that implement the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). In accordance with 36 CFR 800.8, the EIS will include analyses of potential impacts to historic and cultural resources. A draft EIS is scheduled for publication in December 2004, and will be provided to you for review and comment.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact the Environmental Project Manager for the Clinton ESP project, Mr. Thomas Kenyon at 301-415-1120 or [TJK2@nrc.gov](mailto:TJK2@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Pao-Tsin Kuo, Program Director  
License Renewal and Environmental Impacts  
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No.: 52-007

cc: See next page

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