



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Colonial National Historical Park
Post Office Box 210
Yorktown, Virginia 23690

IN REPLY REFER TO:

L76

October 25, 2005

Mr. Jack Cushing
Senior Project Manager
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mailstop O-11F1
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Mr. Cushing:

Per your request, we are providing written comments on the National Park Service's concerns with regards to the impacts that the proposed expansion of the Surry Nuclear Power Plant would have on Colonial National Historical Park's resources.

The park includes Jamestown, Yorktown Battlefield, and Colonial Parkway, which are all on the National Register of Historic Places as nationally significant. The view shed from Jamestown and the Colonial Parkway along the James River is a critical component of the integrity of both resources. In addition, there are several bald eagle nests along the Parkway and at Jamestown, which are protected under federal law.

The current design and height of the Surry Nuclear Power Plant structures are barely visible from the Parkway and Jamestown. At the meeting you held with park staff on September 21, you described a structure that would be more intrusive due to its height, design and the visible plume of steam. These additions would have an adverse effect on the viewshed from both Jamestown and the Colonial Parkway, especially the pull-offs along the James River.

Prior to the implementation of this proposal, the impact on the park's and surrounding area's cultural and natural resources would need to be fully assessed through the development of an Environmental Impact Statement. Please keep us advised as to the status of this proposal, as we are requesting to formally review any documents prepared that assess the impacts of the proposed expansion.

Sincerely,

Skip Brooks
Deputy Superintendent