



In Reply Refer to:

07-I0794

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

New Jersey Field Office
Ecological Services
927 North Main Street, Building D
Pleasantville, New Jersey 08232
Tel: 609/646 9310
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<http://www.fws.gov/northeast/njfieldoffice>



JUL 24 2007

Eric Benner, Chief
Environmental Branch A
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Dear Mr. Benner:

As per your request dated June 13, 2007, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service provides conclusion of the informal consultation on the bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) for the Hope Creek Nuclear Generating Station Extended Power Uprate, Lower Alloways Creek Township, Salem County, New Jersey.

As you know, the Service has delisted the bald eagle pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). To ensure that eagles continue to thrive, the Service will work with State wildlife agencies to monitor eagles for at least 5 years. The Service recommends that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) continue coordinating with Ms. Kathy Clark of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's Endangered and Nongame Species Program to ensure that the proposed project activities do not have adverse impacts on the bald eagle. Further, the bald eagle remains protected pursuant to the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940 (16 U.S.C. 668-668c) and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 (40 Stat. 755 as amended; 16 U.S.C. 703-712), as well as Executive Order 13186 – Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds. Finally, the Service encourages the NRC to review and apply the May 2007 National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines, which are available online at:
<http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/issues/BaldEagle/NationalBaldEagleManagementGuidelines.pdf>.

Please contact Carlo Popolizio of my staff at (609) 646-9310, extension 32, if you require further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J.C. Staples". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

John C. Staples
Assistant Supervisor