

July 3, 2012

Ms. Carol Shull
The National Register
of Historic Places
National Park Services
1201 I St., NW, 6th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005

Attn: Archeologist, National Register of Historic Places

Dear Ms. Shull:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is consulting with you pursuant to Section 304 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (NHPA), and Title 36 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 800 "Protection of Historic Properties", to withhold from public release figures depicting archaeological sites eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. This archaeological information was collected as part of the NHPA Section 106 consultation process for the Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant combined license application (BBNPP COLA). The figures are detailed in Appendix C, Supplemental Cultural Resource Reports, of the Joint Permit Application (JPA) and BBNPP COLA revision 3 on the enclosed compact discs. We are requesting that the figures be withheld from public access and are seeking your determination with respect to the redacting of these figures.

Based on the determination of Dr. Darby Stapp, Ph.D. and Ms. Jennifer Davis of the NRC staff, the NRC would like to withhold this information from public disclosure, because release of this information may cause risk or harm to the resources. The risk of harm to historic resources is a reasonable result of releasing information to the public based on impacts at known sites within areas of potential effect. The NRC staff believes the release of this information may promote looting of the sites.

C. Shull

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Three copies of the unredacted and redacted JPA reports and COLA revision 3 are enclosed. Each set of compact disks contains a spreadsheet of the figures to be redacted as determined by the NRC. Should you have any questions, or need any additional information, please contact the Environmental Project Manager, Ms. Laura Quinn-Willingham, at (301) 415-2220 or by e-mail at Laura.Quinn-Willingham@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Laura Quinn-Willingham, Project Manager
Environmental Project Branch 2
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

Docket No: 52-039

Enclosure:
As stated

C. Shull

-2-

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Laura Quinn-Willingham, Project Manager
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*see previous concurrence

NRO-002

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