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June 21, 2012

ATTN: Document Control Desk
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

**BELL BEND NUCLEAR POWER PLANT
ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT NEED FOR
INFORMATION RESPONSES:
FOURTH SUBMITTAL
BNP-2012-151 Docket No. 52-039**

The purpose of this letter is to formally document PPL Bell Bend, LLC's (PPL) responses to NRC Need for Information (NFI) requests that were discussed with the NRC at the Bell Bend Supplemental Environmental Audit held the week of May 14, 2012. Additional letters providing the remainder of NFI responses requested by NRC at the audit will be provided in coming weeks.

Responses to the following NFIs are included in this letter as Enclosure 1:

- AE-26 • LU-01 • LU-08 • S/EJ-04 • S/EJ-08
- S/EJ-11

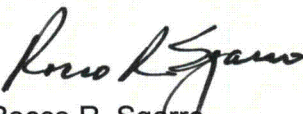
As discussed at the audit, the information presented in AE-26, LU-01, LU-08, S/EJ-04, S/EJ-08, and S/EJ-11 require updates be made to language in the Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant (BBNPP) Combined License Application (COLA) Part 3, "Environmental Report," and Part 9 "Proprietary and SUNSI," Rev. 3.0 to be consistent with information provided in these NFIs. The revised COLA content will be included in a future revision of the BBNPP COLA. The future revisions to the COLA are the only new regulatory commitments in this letter.

Should you have questions or need additional information, please contact the undersigned at 610.774.7552.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on June 21, 2012.

Respectfully,


Rocco R. Sgarro

RRS/kw

Enclosure: 1) Need For Information Responses

*D102
NRO*

cc: (w/ Enclosure)

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(w/o Enclosure)

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Enclosure 1

Need for Information Responses

AQUATIC ECOLOGY (AE)

NFI AE-26: Discuss the ecological effects of the water withdrawal from and discharge to the lower west branch of the Susquehanna River by the proposed Montour Plant, including: A. The effects of low flows on the consumptive use at the plant that would increase total use in the river to about 16%, See items in AE-22 B. The consumptive use by the existing Montour coal plant, C. The availability of impingement/entrainment data from the existing Montour coal plant, D. Confirm the length of the CWIS pipe for the Montour alternative site, E. Conceptual location of the CWIS/D system in relation to the existing Montour coal plant system, and the potential cumulative effect of the operation of both systems, F. the behavior of the discharge plume in shallower water than modeled for BBNPP. A partial response is provided in RAIs AE-15 July 9, 2010 and AE 9.3-1. November 30, 2009

Audit Disposition: Upon review of this NFI response the NRC requested to be provided a docketed copy of the response, included in its entirety below. In addition, the NRC requested clarification as to whether the text in the first five paragraphs of Section 9.3.2.2.5 pertained to the Montour site or to the Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant (BBNPP).

Response:

The ecological effects of the water withdrawal from, and discharge to, the lower West Branch of the Susquehanna River are partially addressed in the response to Information Need AE-15¹ and in the BBNPP Environmental Report (ER) Rev. 3 Section 9.3.2.2.5. Additional information is provided below.

- A. As outlined in the approval for additional consumptive use and surface water withdrawal from the Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC, 2006), the existing Montour Steam Electric Station has a maximum consumptive use of 28 million gallons per day (mgd). The maximum consumptive use of the conceptual Montour alternative facility is 28 mgd. Together these maximum consumptive uses account for approximately 13 percent of the 7Q10 flow at the U.S. Geologic Survey gage in Lewisburg. This consumptive use is mitigated by up to 8 mgd of water released from Lake Chillisquaque when flow measured at the gage at Wilkes-Barre is less than the 7Q10 flow. Thus, the maximum consumptive use considering both the existing and conceptual Montour alternative plants during drought periods would be approximately 48 mgd (i.e., 28 mgd + 28 mgd – 8 mgd) or approximately 11 percent of the 7Q10 flow. ER Rev. 3 Section 9.3.2.2.3 states that the total consumptive use in the West Branch Susquehanna River is approximately 112.1 mgd (approximately 25 percent of the 7Q10 at Lewisburg). The cumulative consumptive use would be a much lower percentage during average flow conditions, and the impact on aquatic habitat is expected to be small.

At the proposed conceptual water withdrawal location in the West Branch Susquehanna River, there is no shallow water habitat near the bank, such as sand or cobble bars, that would be dewatered with an 11 to 25 percent reduction in the 7Q10 from the combined consumptive use. Ecological impacts in the immediate area of the withdrawal site are, therefore, expected to be minimal. Shallow cobble/sand habitats downstream of the cooling water intake system (CWIS) in the West Branch Susquehanna River may be temporarily dewatered if subjected to an 11 to 25 percent reduction in the 7Q10 from the combined consumptive use. This could affect aquatic invertebrates that occur in such habitats. No effects to fish spawning are expected as low flow conditions typically would not occur during the time of year that fish spawn. Requirements in permits that would be issued for the proposed facility should protect all in-stream uses.

¹ PPL Letter BNP-2010-167, from Rocco R. Sgarro to Document Control Desk, Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant Response to Environmental Information Needs, First Submittal, dated July 9, 2010.

- B. The information provided in the response to Information Need AE-15¹ is being revised by this response to show a maximum consumptive use of 28 mgd. (SRBC, 2006).
- C. No impingement/entrainment data is available for the existing Montour facility. This question was answered in the response to Information Need AE-15¹.
- D. As stated in ER Rev. 3 Section 9.3.2.2.3 and elsewhere in ER Rev. 3 Section 9.3.2.2., the length of the conceptual CWIS pipeline for the Montour site is 12.3 miles (19.8 km).
- E. This question was answered in the response to Information Need AE-15¹. Attachment A of the response to current Information Need TE-28 is a figure illustrating the conceptual water pipeline route and location of the CWIS/D.
- F. CORMIX modeling was performed for the proposed BBNPP site. However, modeling has not been performed for the conceptual Montour alternative site because engineering design has not been completed for any of the alternative sites, and the proposed CWIS location is only conceptual. The potential behavior of the discharge plume from the conceptual Montour alternative site into the West Branch Susquehanna River in shallower water than the BBNPP discharge structure located on the North Branch Susquehanna River is difficult to predict without modeling as it will be dependent on flow and velocity. Assuming design of the discharge structure and other variables are the same as for the proposed BBNPP, the discharge plume could surface as it is located in shallower waters. However, if the Montour site were selected as the proposed location of a new nuclear power plant, modeling would be performed to determine how the diffuser should be designed to ensure adequate dilution. Modeling would also identify the potential thermal and chemical impacts, ensure that water quality standards were met, and ensure that aquatic species would not be impacted by potential thermal and chemical changes. However, at the conceptual level of the alternative site evaluation, modeling of the discharge plume is not warranted.

The conceptual Montour alternative site would also be subject to issuance of a State 401 Water Quality Certification and NPDES permit that would ensure compliance with water quality standards and minimize impacts to aquatic species.

Data Source:

SRBC, 2006. Re: PPL Montour, LLC Docket No. 19940901-1, March 31.

COLA Impact:

BBNPP COLA ER Section 9.3.2.2.5, paragraphs 1 through 5, will be revised as follows in a future revision of the COLA:

9.3.2.2.5 Aquatic Ecology and Sensitive Species

Construction-related impacts on the aquatic ecology would be similar to those described in ER Section 4.3 and include loss of wetlands and temporary loss of habitat and short-term degradation of water quality in isolated areas due to in water and shoreline construction of the BBNPP CWS Makeup Water Intake Structure. According to the EDR database, there are wetlands located within 0.5 mi (0.8 km) of the Montour site. Table 9.3-12, Table 9.3-13, and

¹ PPL Letter BNP-2010-167, from Rocco R. Sgarro to Document Control Desk, Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant Response to Environmental Information Needs, First Submittal, dated July 9, 2010.

Table 9.3-14 provide a summary of wetlands and streams on the BBNPP site and Alternative Sites. Table 9.3-12 indicates that no wetlands occur on the Montour site, but that there are wetlands in the general vicinity. Table 9.3-12 also indicates that there would be impacts on 3,891 linear feet (lf) (1,186 m) of streams on the Montour site, primarily along the East Branch Chillisquaque Creek, which flows through the Montour site (ESRI, 2009b; USFWS, 2009a). The Middle Branch Chillisquaque Creek flows along the southwestern boundary of the Montour Site and would not be impacted.

The former ash basin of the ~~Montour~~ Montour Coal Plant appears in some older aerial and topographic figures, including ER Figure 9.3-17, ~~Montour~~ Montour Site Vicinity Map, as a water body/lake just to the southeast of the Montour site boundary (see ER Figure 9.3-17 Legend). The former ash basin has been reclaimed, filled and reseeded, and is now a grass-covered field. There is no other water body located at the southeast corner of the proposed Montour site boundary.

It is anticipated that, while much of the supporting structure will be located onshore, the ~~BBNPP Intake Structure~~ cooling water intake structure (CWIS) will extend a short distance into the waterway and will likely involve the dredging of sediment to allow for the construction of the concrete structure on the bottom of the river. The dredging of sediment and construction of the ~~BBNPP CWIS~~ CWIS would be performed within a temporary cofferdam. Nonetheless, some suspension and re-deposition of the sediment is likely to occur, and those benthic organisms living in or on the removed sediment would be removed as well. It is anticipated that any suspended sediment will quickly redeposit in the immediate area. For a short time, the suspended sediment will create increased turbidity in the immediate area of the construction. Fish and motile crustaceans present in the area during construction of the ~~BBNPP CWIS Intake Structure~~ CWIS will avoid the area during active construction or will actively feed on suspended organisms during dredging operations, and are unlikely to be adversely affected by the construction activities.

No construction effluents are anticipated from the ~~BBNPP CWIS Intake Structure~~ CWIS construction area. BMPs will be used to minimize runoff volumes and impacts. The use of a cofferdam to facilitate construction of the in water portions of the ~~BBNPP CWIS Intake Structure~~ CWIS will minimize releases of sediment. Prior to commencement of dredging, sediment in those areas proposed to be dredged will be sampled and analyzed to obtain detailed chemical characterizations according to the requirements of dredging permits; special sediment handling requirements suggested by the sediment sampling results and required by the dredging permit will be followed.

~~BBNPP CWIS Intake Structure~~ CWIS construction related impacts on aquatic species are anticipated to be minor because the area of impacts is limited to the immediate vicinity of the construction activities. Because the potential impacts will be localized and given the short term nature of the construction activities and the relatively short term recovery periods for disturbed benthic species within and near the dredged area, no long term effects on important species and their habitats are anticipated to occur. Therefore, the adverse aquatic ecology impacts associated with construction of the ~~BBNPP CWIS Intake Structure~~ CWIS are anticipated to be SMALL.

LAND USE (LU)

NFI LU-01: Discuss how and when the BBNPP parcel will be divided into west and east parcels under separate ownership.

Audit Disposition:

Upon review of this NFI response, the NRC requested to be provided updated information on the status of zoning changes at the Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant (BBNPP) site. Accordingly, an updated zoning figure will be included in a future version of the BBNPP Environmental Report (ER), Figure 2.2-4.

Response:

An updated ER Figure 2.2-4 has been created to incorporate the updated zoning information from Salem Township, and the ER narrative in Section 2.2.1 will be revised to describe the updated zoning information within the Project Boundary.

Data Source:

Salem, 2011. 2011 Zoning Map, Salem Township, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, February 8, 2011.

COLA Impact:

The BBNPP COLA ER Sections 2.2.1, 2.2.4, and Figure 2.2-4 will be changed in a future revision as described below.

2.2.1 The Site and Vicinity

...

The BBNPP site is located in the southwestern quadrant of Luzerne County. This area is characterized by forests, open, undeveloped, agricultural, mined, and developed land. The developed portions of this area are located in and around the city of Hazleton and the eastern outskirts of Berwick Borough. ~~As shown on Figure 2.2-4, most of the area within the BBNPP Project Boundary is zoned as an agricultural district with substantial portions zoned as conservation district and heavy industrial. (Salem, 2008).~~ As shown on Figure 2.2-4, most of the area within the BBNPP Project Boundary is zoned as a special industrial district, with the eastern riverfront portion zoned as conservation district (Salem, 2011). Smaller areas of highway business district and agricultural district zoned land are also present within the BBNPP Project Boundary.

2.2.4 References

Salem, 2011. 2011 Zoning Map, Salem Township, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, Revised by Pennoni Associates, Inc., February 8, 2011.

Figure 2.2-4— BBNPP Site Zoning Map

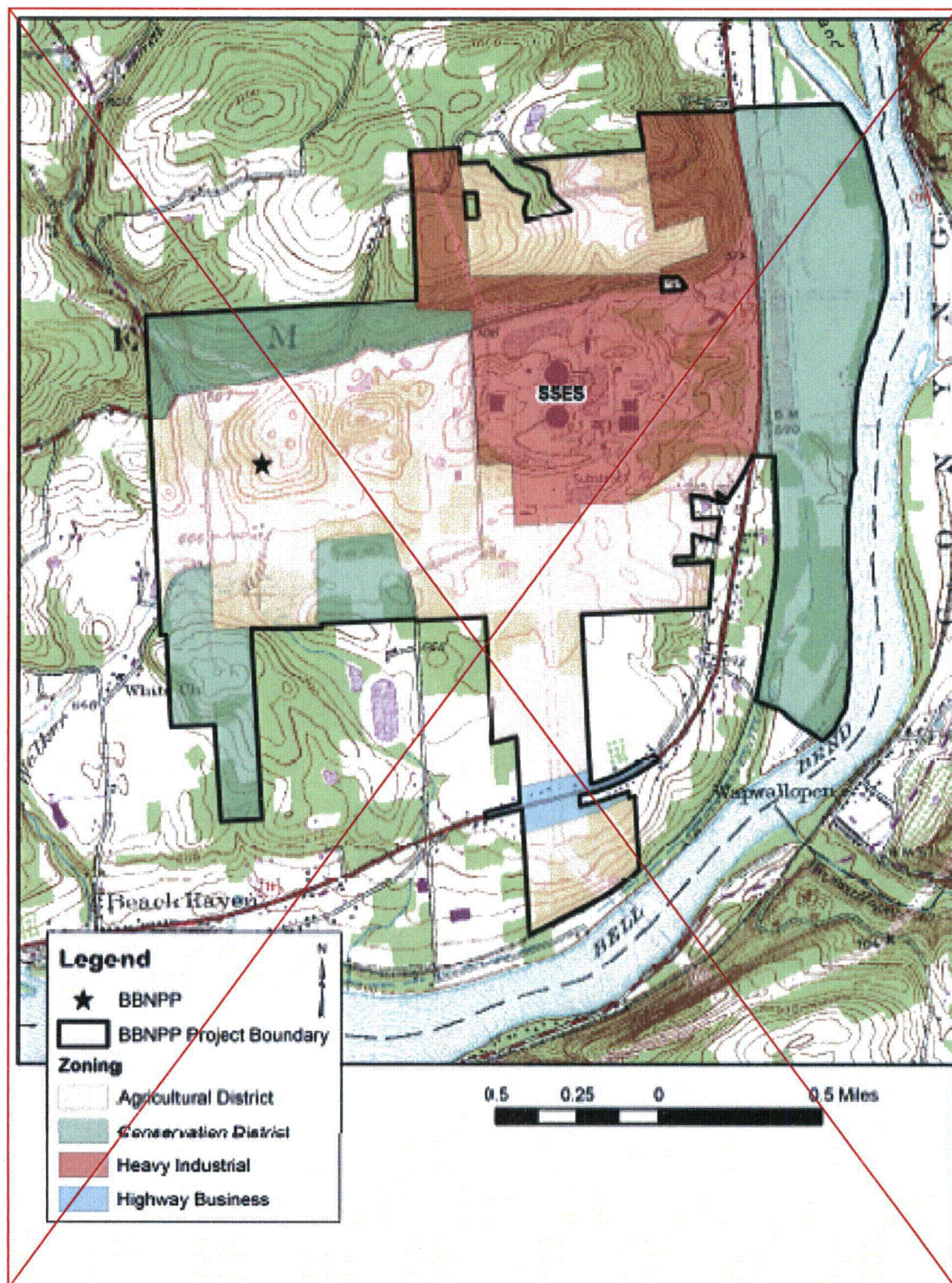
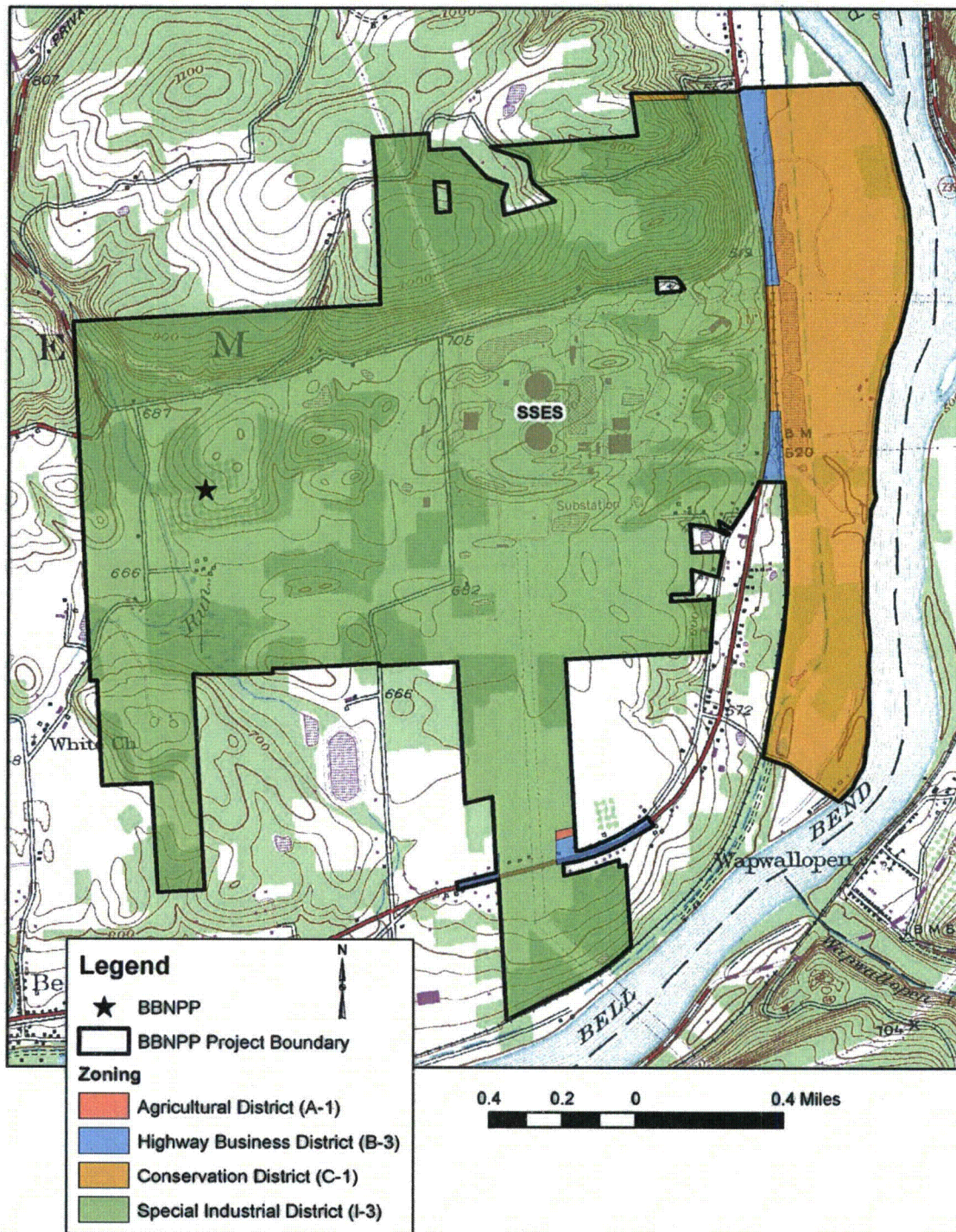


Figure 2.2-4— BBNPP Site Zoning Map



NFI LU-08: Provide a knowledgeable expert to discuss how the information on farmland and agricultural products in ER Table 2.2-6 compares to more recent information for the region from the 2007 Census of Agriculture.

Audit Disposition:

Upon review of this NFI response, the NRC requested to be provided updated information on value of crops in Table 2.2-6.

Response:

The 2007 annual yields (in bushels) for barley, corn, soybean, wheat, vegetables, hay, poultry, and cattle are shown in a revised Table 2.2-6 (attached).

Data Sources:

USDA, 2007. County Summary Highlights: 2007, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Website: http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Publications/2007/Full_Report/Volume_1,_Chapter_1_State_Level/Pennsylvania/index.asp, Date accessed: March 30, 2012.

COLA Impact:

The BBNPP COLA Part 3, Environmental Report, will be changed in a future revision as described below.

2.2.3 The Region

...

Land acreage devoted to major uses within the 50 mi (80 km) region are presented in Table 2.2-5 and shown on Figure 2.2-7. The land use/cover categories used in the table are those used by the U.S. Geological Survey. ~~Principal agricultural commodities, dollar values of produced commodities, amount of county land used for agriculture, and the average land value based on the last (2002) U.S. Department of Agriculture survey, for these principal agricultural commodities are summarized in Table 2.2-6 (USDA, 2002).~~

Agricultural products grown in the 50-mile region surrounding the BBNPP site include barley, corn, soybean, wheat, vegetables, hay, poultry, and cattle (USDA, 2007). The 2007 annual yields for these products are shown in Table 2.2-6.

2.2.4 References

USDA, 2007. County Summary Highlights: 2007, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Website: http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Publications/2007/Full_Report/Volume_1,_Chapter_1_State_Level/Pennsylvania/index.asp, Date accessed: March 30, 2012.

Table 2.2-6— Land Use Categories within 50 mi (80 km) Region

County	Total Farmland Acres (Hectares)	Land Value (Dollars per acre)	Grains	Tobacco	Vegetables, Melons, Potatoes	Fruits, Nuts, Berries	Nursery, Greenhouse, Sod	Hay	Poultry, Eggs	Cattle	Dairy Products, Cows	Equine	Aquaculture
Values listed in 1000's of dollars													
Bradford	302,475 (122,407)	\$1,790	\$1,175		\$752		\$1,534	\$3,204		\$27,097	\$54,922	\$87	
Berks	215,679 (87,282)	\$5,527	\$10,203		\$2,312	\$4,436	\$96,809	\$4,924	\$70,845	\$18,252	\$59,970	\$477	\$244
Carbon	19,257 (7,793)	\$4,436	\$238				\$3,698	\$497	\$27	\$344	\$505	\$71	\$61
Columbia	123,514 (49,984)	\$3,137	\$4,739		\$3,524		\$6,415	\$1,219	\$2,499	\$1,929	\$8,832	\$105	\$82
Dauphin	94,983 (38,438)	\$5,291	\$4,493	\$29	\$1,217	\$843	\$1,197	\$2,007	\$14,248	\$5,957	\$15,100	\$209	\$69
Lackawanna	32,931 (13,327)	\$3,205			\$3,832	\$668	\$3,262	\$618			\$3,110	\$477	
Lebanon	125,066 (50,612)	\$5,349	\$7,081	\$150	\$3,950	\$713	\$4,138	\$963	\$68,446	\$18,499	\$58,294	\$184	\$1,053
Lehigh	91,304 (36,949)	\$4,504	\$8,332			\$2,510	\$21,386	\$1,944		\$1,066	\$3,267	\$553	
Luzerne	73,216 (29,629)	\$3,541	\$1,364		\$7,822	\$1,714	\$6,136	\$767	\$33	\$921	\$3,100	\$109	
Lycoming	177,347 (71,770)	\$2,318	\$4,664	\$37	\$1,291	\$1,957	\$4,602	\$2,410	\$4,660	\$8,664	\$14,990	\$176	\$64
Monroe	32,938 (13,320)	\$5,191	\$882		\$641	\$242	\$2,348	\$454	\$17	\$324	\$360	\$67	\$1,014
Montour	39,964 (16,172)	\$2,996		\$80	\$226	\$253		\$448	\$1,604	\$1,721	\$4,332		
Northampton	77,556 (31,386)	\$4,862	\$6,866		\$1,522	\$840	\$2,486	\$1,419	\$84	\$1,034	\$6,041	\$42	
Northumberland	119,129 (48,210)	\$3,099	\$10,004	\$416	\$4,644	\$1,356	\$9,040	\$969	\$20,744	\$31,886	\$11,485	\$88	
Pike	10,113 (4,093)	\$2,878			\$15		\$992	\$38		\$29	\$432		
Schuylkill	110,946 (44,898)	\$3,383	\$3,976		\$5,716	\$1,026	\$16,717	\$1,624	\$21,535	\$3,045	\$7,206	\$127	\$1,922
Snyder	100,034 (40,482)	\$3,558	\$2,452	\$51	\$2,205	\$1,191	\$402	\$832	\$30,734	\$10,913	\$18,855	\$117	
Sullivan	31,096 (12,584)	\$1,878	\$48				\$249	\$291	\$1	\$1,105	\$5,152	\$59	\$5
Susquehanna	189,287 (76,601)	\$2,162	\$130		\$152	\$309	\$407	\$1,390		\$13,426	\$26,093	\$106	
Union	69,424 (28,095)	\$4,156	\$3,148				\$642	\$968	\$15,350	\$5,920	\$21,701		
Wayne	113,167 (45,797)	\$2,111	\$42		\$215	\$370	\$753	\$979	\$51	\$2,296	\$15,667	\$117	
Wyoming	61,846 (25,028)	\$2,276	\$307		\$530	\$203	\$780	\$743	\$3	\$1,123	\$7,592		

Note:

Values are for top agricultural commodities listed for each county. All commodity sales for 2002 Census are not listed.

Table 2.2-6 - Regional Agricultural Products and Yields (2007)

<u>County</u>	<u>Barley (Bushels)</u>	<u>Corn (Bushels)</u>	<u>Soybean (Bushels)</u>	<u>Wheat (Bushels)</u>	<u>Vegetables, Melons, Potatoes (Acres)</u>	<u>Hay (Tons)</u>	<u>Poultry¹ (Head)</u>	<u>Cattle¹ (Head)</u>
<u>Bradford</u>	<u>1,251</u>	<u>993,452</u>	<u>24,895</u>	<u>98,885</u>	<u>192</u>	<u>118,099</u>	<u>2,886</u>	<u>45,622</u>
<u>Berks</u>	<u>275,334</u>	<u>6,510,218</u>	<u>1,134,237</u>	<u>583,555</u>	<u>1,132</u>	<u>97,807</u>	<u>1,860,472</u>	<u>66,950</u>
<u>Carbon</u>	<u>6,000</u>	<u>133,541</u>	<u>10,613</u>	<u>4,494</u>	<u>346</u>	<u>10,977</u>	<u>1,236</u>	<u>1,087</u>
<u>Columbia</u>	<u>8,378</u>	<u>2,543,591</u>	<u>336,431</u>	<u>275,330</u>	<u>4,107</u>	<u>25,369</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,119</u>
<u>Dauphin</u>	<u>69,599</u>	<u>1,890,936</u>	<u>405,077</u>	<u>196,229</u>	<u>334</u>	<u>37,449</u>	<u>788,324</u>	<u>14,968</u>
<u>Lackawanna</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>101,075</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>841</u>	<u>15,686</u>	<u>1,304</u>	<u>3,687</u>
<u>Lebanon</u>	<u>185,989</u>	<u>3,759,992</u>	<u>681,745</u>	<u>315,166</u>	<u>817</u>	<u>39,228</u>	<u>1,504,824</u>	<u>56,793</u>
<u>Lehigh</u>	<u>21,398</u>	<u>3,672,868</u>	<u>654,464</u>	<u>449,310</u>	<u>1,674</u>	<u>24,527</u>	<u>22,948</u>	<u>3,573</u>
<u>Luzerne</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,000,534</u>	<u>101,875</u>	<u>69,251</u>	<u>1,471</u>	<u>15,808</u>	<u>7,755</u>	<u>4,996</u>
<u>Lycoming</u>	<u>2,008</u>	<u>2,002,767</u>	<u>253,069</u>	<u>79,039</u>	<u>1,166</u>	<u>45,934</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19,531</u>
<u>Monroe</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>340,004</u>	<u>47,920</u>	<u>15,996</u>	<u>246</u>	<u>7,475</u>	<u>1,058</u>	<u>1,002</u>
<u>Montour</u>	<u>6,718</u>	<u>589,673</u>	<u>148,612</u>	<u>61,856</u>	<u>231</u>	<u>12,446</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,680</u>
<u>Northampton</u>	<u>13,533</u>	<u>3,189,508</u>	<u>511,220</u>	<u>190,094</u>	<u>561</u>	<u>34,050</u>	<u>3,010</u>	<u>6,327</u>
<u>Northumberland</u>	<u>90,352</u>	<u>3,955,720</u>	<u>673,653</u>	<u>206,903</u>	<u>1,549</u>	<u>24,454</u>	<u>131,286</u>	<u>20,995</u>
<u>Pike</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>234</u>	<u>174</u>
<u>Snyder</u>	<u>17,159</u>	<u>1,096,618</u>	<u>241,023</u>	<u>72,609</u>	<u>1,221</u>	<u>30,302</u>	<u>300,957</u>	<u>25,564</u>
<u>Schuylkill</u>	<u>27,571</u>	<u>1,956,586</u>	<u>278,273</u>	<u>233,654</u>	<u>2,756</u>	<u>34,832</u>	<u>1,651,628</u>	<u>12,011</u>
<u>Sullivan</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>167,888</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>14,415</u>	<u>899</u>	<u>3,906</u>
<u>Susquehanna</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>124,856</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>90</u>	<u>79,552</u>	<u>3,463</u>	<u>29,555</u>
<u>Union</u>	<u>18,925</u>	<u>1,007,912</u>	<u>296,403</u>	<u>118,674</u>	<u>383</u>	<u>24,427</u>	<u>326,185</u>	<u>21,517</u>
<u>Wayne</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>137</u>	<u>40,687</u>	<u>2,651</u>	<u>12,446</u>
<u>Wyoming</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>318,041</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>430</u>	<u>28,981</u>	<u>1,511</u>	<u>5,909</u>

SOCIOECONOMICS/ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE (S/EJ)

NFI S/EJ-04: Provide the author to discuss regional and local highway systems and their ability to accommodate demands placed on them by BBNPP construction and operation.

Audit Disposition:

Upon review of this NFI response the NRC requested additional information on PennDOT Traffic Impact Study and Highway Occupancy Permit processes. This supplemental response describes requirements of the PennDOT Traffic Impact Study guidelines, its relationship to the Highway Occupation Permit process, and how by virtue of an approved Traffic Impact Study, PPL will commit to completing the mitigation strategies outlined in the Traffic Impact Study. Additional discussion is also provided on how state approval would impact local highway systems.

Response:

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) Guidelines (PennDOT, 2009) require that the traffic impact study (KLD, 2011) and associated mitigation measures, if any, must be identified and agreed to by the applicable PennDOT Regions before the applicant submits the final Highway Occupation Permit (HOP) engineering plans for review. PennDOT guidelines also require the involvement of local government in the traffic impact study review process. The HOP is required to make any change to the public right of way, such as the addition of the site access road to the Bell Bend property. Any mitigation measures identified and agreed upon by PennDOT in the final approved traffic impact study will be required as part of the HOP process.

Data Sources:

PennDOT, 2009. Policies and Procedures for Transportation Impact Studies Related to Highway Occupancy Permits, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, Bureau of Highway Safety and Traffic Engineering, January 28, 2009.

COLA Impact:

BBNPP COLA ER Section 4.4.1.5 will be changed in a future revision as described below.

4.4.1.5 Transportation Routes

...Measures suggested to avoid these impacts included scheduling shipments over the rail spur to avoid shift changes.

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) Guidelines (PennDOT, 2009) require that the traffic impact study (KLD, 2011) and associated mitigation measures, if any, must be identified and agreed to by the applicable PennDOT Regions before the applicant submits the final Highway Occupation Permit (HOP) engineering plans for review. PennDOT guidelines also require the involvement of local government in the traffic impact study review process. The HOP is required to make any change to the public right of way, such as the addition of the site access road to the Bell Bend property. Any mitigation measures identified and agreed upon by PennDOT in the final approved traffic impact study will be required as part of the HOP process.

4.4.1.7 References

PennDOT, 2009. Policies and Procedures for Transportation Impact Studies Related to Highway Occupancy Permits, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, Bureau of Highway Safety and Traffic Engineering, January 28, 2009.

S/EJ-08: Provide a thorough discussion and estimates of BBNPP property tax revenue generated during construction phase.

S/EJ-11: Discussion of and estimation of property tax revenue expected to be generated operations phase.

Audit Disposition: Based upon review of the NFI S/EJ-08 and S/EJ-11 responses at the audit, it was determined that these NFI questions would be resolved through addition of tax-related information to the BBNPP COLA ER that was previously only provided in the BBNPP COLA Part 9.

Response: Sections: 5.8.2.4.2; 5.8.2.7.2; 5.8.3.2.3; and 10.4.1.4 of the ER will be revised to include tax revenue information previously only presented in Part 09.

COLA Impact: BBNPP COLA Parts 9 and 3 will be changed in a future revision as described below.

(from COLA Part 9, Proprietary and SUNSI)

PART 3: ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

~~Section 5.8.2.4.2 – Two-County Region of Influence – Projected total property tax payments starting in 2018~~

~~Section 5.8.2.7.2 – Educational System – Projected payment to Berwick School District starting in 2018~~

~~Section 5.8.3.2.3 – Tax Revenues, first paragraph: – Projected total property tax payments starting in 2018~~

~~Section 10.4.1.4 – Benefits of the Proposed Facility – Projected total property tax payments starting in 2018~~

5.8.2.4.2 Two-County Region of Influence

~~Starting in 2018, PPL Bell Bend, LLC, estimates that BBNPP will generate approximately \$ [2.4 million] a year in real estate taxes (in 2008 dollars). When compared to the total real estate taxes paid by PPL Susquehanna, LLC, in 2008, i.e., approximately \$4 million, this sum will represent a significant increase in revenues for Salem Township, the Berwick Area School District, and Luzerne County. These increased real estate tax revenues would either provide additional revenues for existing public facility and service needs or for new needs generated by the power plant and associated workforce. The increased revenues could also help to maintain or reduce future taxes paid by existing non-project related businesses and residents, to the extent that project-related payments provide tax revenues that exceed the public facility and service needs created by BBNPP. It is concluded that these increased power plant real estate tax revenues would be a LARGE economic benefit to Salem Township and Luzerne County.~~

5.8.2.7.2 Educational System

~~As described above, an estimated 268 new households would migrate into Luzerne County as a result of the operation of BBNPP with an estimated 130 mostly school-aged children (assuming 0.48 children per household). This would represent a 0.3% increase in the 2005-2006 student enrollment of 42,000 in Luzerne County. In 2018, PPL Bell Bend, LLC estimates that BBNPP will pay the Berwick School District approximately \$ [1.7 million] a year. When compared to the taxes paid to the Berwick Area School District by PPL Susquehanna,~~

LLC, in 2008, i.e., approximately \$2.8 million, this sum will represent a significant increase in funds available to meet the educational needs for children in the in-migrating operational work force. Thus, it is concluded that the impacts to the Luzerne County Public School System would be SMALL, and would not require mitigation.

5.8.3.2.3 Tax Revenues

Starting in 2018, PPL Bell Bend, LLC, estimates that BBNPP will generate approximately \$ [2.4 million] a year in real estate taxes (in 2008 dollars). When compared to the total real estate taxes paid by PPL Susquehanna, LLC, in 2008, i.e., approximately \$4 million, this sum will represent a significant increase in revenues for Salem Township, the Berwick Area School District, and Luzerne County.

10.4.1.4 Benefits of the Proposed Facility

Locating the proposed new nuclear facility at the existing BBNPP property will afford benefits to the local economy. The BBNPP owners will pay property taxes on the proposed new unit for the duration of the operating license. BBNPP owners estimate that annual property tax payments could reach approximately \$ [2.4 million] in 2018, the year of plant startup. Most people consider large tax payments a benefit to the taxing entity because they support the development of infrastructure that supports further economic development and growth.

(from COLA Part 3, ER)

5.8.2.4.2 Two-County Region of Influence

Starting in 2018, PPL Bell Bend, LLC, estimates that BBNPP will generate approximately \$ 2.4 million [Proprietary Information—Withheld Under 10 CFR 2.390(a)(4)—See Part 9 of this COL Application] a year in real estate taxes (in 2008 dollars). ...

5.8.2.7.2 Educational System

As described above, an estimated 268 new households would migrate into Luzerne County as a result of the operation of BBNPP with an estimated 130 mostly school-aged children (assuming 0.48 children per household). This would represent a 0.3% increase in the 2005-2006 student enrollment of 42,000 in Luzerne County. In 2018, PPL Bell Bend, LLC estimates that BBNPP will pay the Berwick School District approximately \$ 1.7 million [Proprietary Information—Withheld Under 10 CFR 2.390(a)(4)—See Part 9 of this COL Application] a year. ...

5.8.3.2.3 Tax Revenues

Starting in 2018, PPL Bell Bend, LLC, estimates that BBNPP will generate approximately \$ 2.4 million [Proprietary Information—Withheld Under 10 CFR 2.390(a)(4)—See Part 9 of this COL Application] a year in real estate taxes (in 2008 dollars). ...

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Locating the proposed new nuclear facility at the existing BBNPP property will afford benefits to the local economy. The BBNPP owners will pay property taxes on the proposed new unit for the duration of the operating license. BBNPP owners estimate that annual property tax payments could reach approximately \$ 2.4 million [Proprietary Information—Withheld Under 10 CFR 2.390(a)(4)—See Part 9 of this COL Application] in 2018, the year of plant startup. Most people consider large tax payments a benefit to the taxing entity because they support the development of infrastructure that supports further economic development and growth.