

BBNPCEm Resource

From: Mowery, Olivia [omowery@pa.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, July 10, 2012 9:11 AM
To: BBNPCOLEIS Resource
Subject: Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant - Request for Consultation
Attachments: LargeProject.Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant.Supplimental Scoping Process.pdf

To Whom It May Concern,

Attached please find the Pennsylvania Game Commission's response to the U.S. NRC's request for consultation for the Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant project. A hard copy of this letter is to follow.

Should you have any questions, please let me know.

Thanks,
Olivia

Olivia A. Mowery

PA Game Commission, Bureau of Wildlife Habitat Management
Division of Environmental Planning & Habitat Protection
2001 Elmerton Avenue
Harrisburg, PA 17110
Phone: 717-787-4250, Extension 3128

Federal Register Notice: 77FR36012
Comment Number: 2

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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
Pennsylvania Game Commission
2001 ELMERTON AVENUE
HARRISBURG, PA 17110-9797

"To manage all wild birds, mammals and their habitats
for current and future generations."

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July 10, 2012

Chief, Rulemaking, Announcements, and Directives Branch
Division of Administrative Services
Office of Administration
Mail Stop TWB-05-B01M
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Re: Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant Project – Request for Consultation and Participation in
the Supplemental Scoping Process for the Revised Layout
Salem Township, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania

To Whom It May Concern,

Thank you for submitting your project to the Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC) for review. The PGC has screened this project for potential impacts to species and resources of concern under PGC responsibility, which includes birds and mammals only.

Potential Impact Anticipated

PNDI records indicate species or resources of concern are located in the vicinity of the project. The PGC has received and thoroughly reviewed the information that you provided to this office, as well as PNDI data, and has determined that potential impacts to the following endangered species may be associated with your project:

Scientific Name	Common Name	PA Status	Federal Status
<i>Myotis sodalis</i>	Indiana Bat	ENDANGERED	ENDANGERED
<i>Myotis leibii</i>	Eastern Small-footed Myotis	THREATENED	N/A
<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Northern myotis	SPECIAL CONCERN	N/A

Next Steps

Indiana bats are a federally listed endangered species under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. As a result, our agency defers comments on potential impacts to Indiana bats to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Additionally, because of their ecological significance, the following seasonal restriction is suggested to avoid potential impacts to *Myotis leibii*, *Myotis septentrionalis*, and other bats within the area. All trees or dead snags greater than 5 inches in diameter at breast height that need to be harvested to facilitate the project (including any access roads or off-R.O.W. work spaces) shall be cut between November 16 and March 31.

Conservation Measure(s)

National Wetland Inventory Mapping (NWI) and/or aerial photos suggest that wetlands are located within the project area along Walker Run and several unnamed tributaries of the Susquehanna River. The PGC is requesting that the final project avoid, or at least minimize to the greatest practical extent, any adverse impacts to these resources and their associated wildlife habitat.

This response represents the most up-to-date summary of the Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory data files. An absence of recorded information does not necessarily imply actual conditions on site. Should project plans change or additional information on listed or proposed species become available, this determination may be reconsidered.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide these comments at this stage in the planning process. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (717) 783-5957.

Sincerely,



Olivia A. Mowery

Environmental Planner

Division of Environmental Planning & Habitat Protection

Bureau of Wildlife Habitat Management

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A PNHP Partner



Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program

OAM/loam

cc: Pamela Shellenberger, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
File