



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

August 14, 2014

E. Patrick McIntyre, Jr.
Executive Director
Tennessee Historical Commission
2941 Lebanon Road
Nashville, TN 37243-0442

**SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR
POWER PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2, FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

Dear Mr. McIntyre:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is conducting an environmental review of the effects of renewing the operating license for Sequoyah Nuclear Plant (SQN), Units 1 and 2. SQN is located in Hamilton County, Tennessee, approximately 6 miles east of Soddy-Daisy, Tennessee, on a peninsula on the western shore of the Chickamauga Reservoir and is operated by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA). As part of its review, the NRC has completed a draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for the license renewal of SQN. This letter is to inform you that the draft SEIS for the license renewal of SQN is available for public comment. The SEIS includes analyses of relevant environmental issues, including potential impacts to historic, archeological, and cultural properties from continued plant operation associated with license renewal.

As stated in our March 2013, letter, the NRC has determined that the area of potential effect (APE) for a license renewal action is the area at the power plant site and its immediate environs that may be impacted by post-license renewal land disturbing operation or projected refurbishment activities associated with the proposed action. The NRC views the APE for the SQN license renewal as including the SQN site and the immediate environs.

As stated in our letter to you in March 2013, the NRC is conducting Section 106 consultations in compliance with National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) through the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as outlined in 36 CFR 800.8(c). Under the provisions of NHPA, the NRC determined that there would be no adverse effect on historic properties by this undertaking (the renewal of the SQN operating license). The justification for these conclusions is explained in Section 4.9.1.1 of the draft SEIS.

In support of this conclusion, the NRC has conducted an environmental audit at the site and performed an independent analysis and review of historic and archaeological records. The NRC also initiated consultation with 14 Federally recognized Native American tribes, notifying them of the proposed action and requesting comments and concerns. To date, one of the tribes, United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma, responded indicating there are no religious or culturally significant sites in the project area but said it would like to be contacted if any inadvertent discoveries of human remains are made as a result of the proposed Federal action (license renewal). Documentation for tribal consultation is presented in Appendix C of the draft SEIS.

E. McIntyre

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A copy of the draft SEIS is enclosed. Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.8(c), we are requesting your comments on the draft supplement and on our preliminary conclusions. Electronic comments on the draft SEIS may be submitted to the NRC by accessing www.regulations.gov and searching for Docket ID NRC-2013-0037. Written comments may be mailed to the NRC at:

Cindy Bladey, Chief
Rules, Announcements, and Directives Branch (RADB)
Office of Administration, Mail Stop: 3WFN-06-44M
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Please note that the public comment period for the draft SEIS ends on September 29, 2014.

Public meetings to discuss the findings of the draft SEIS will be held at the Soddy-Daisy City Hall, 9835 Dayton Pike, Soddy-Daisy, Tennessee, 37379, on Wednesday, September 17, 2014. The first session will convene at 2:00 p.m. and will continue until 4:00 p.m., as necessary. The second session will convene at 7:00 p.m. and will continue until 9:00 p.m., as necessary. The meetings will be transcribed and will include: (1) a presentation of the contents of the draft SEIS and (2) the opportunity for interested government agencies, organizations, and individuals to provide comments on the draft report. Additionally, the NRC staff will host informal discussions one hour prior to the start of each session at the same location. A meeting notice will be published shortly providing more details about those public meetings. A separate Notice of Availability of the draft SEIS will be placed in the Federal Register through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Emily Larson, Social Scientist, at 301-415-1151 or by e-mail at Emily.Larson@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

David J. Wrona, Chief
Environmental Review and
Guidance Update Branch
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-327 and 50-328

Enclosure:
NUREG-1437, Generic Environmental Impact
Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear
Plants, Supplement 53

cc w/encl: Listserv

J. Garrison, Historic Preservation Specialist
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Enclosure:
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cc w/encls: Listserv

J. Garrison, Historic Preservation Specialist

DISTRIBUTION: See next page

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*concurring via email

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DATE	8/5/14	8/11/14	8/12/14	8/14/14

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Letter to E. McIntyre from D. Wrona dated August 14, 2014

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POWER PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2, FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

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