

**LaSalle Environmental Audit  
Response to Request for Additional Information**

**Index #:** 017    **RAI #:** LU-01    **Category:** Land Use and Visual Resources

**Statement of Question:**

The ER (Section 3.2, p. 3-5 and 3-6) states that the LSCS site is 1,568 hectares (ha; 3,875 acres (ac)) in size. Of that area, the cooling pond occupies 833 ha (2,058 ac); industrial or developed areas account for 60 ha (150 ac); undeveloped areas account for 101 ha (250 ac); and the LaSalle Fish Hatchery occupies 18 ha (45 ac). Describe the land use(s) for the remaining 556 ha (1,372 ac).

**Response:**

The on-site land use acreages provided in Section 3.2 of the License Renewal ER were based on land use acreages and property boundaries as reported and depicted in source documents that relied on the 1977 Operating License Stage Environmental Report (OL-ER). During its preparations for the NRC Environmental Audit for License Renewal in June 2015, Exelon realized that the 1977 OL-ER and subsequent documentation inaccurately depicted actual property ownership boundaries for the makeup and blowdown pipeline right-of-way near the Illinois River in the vicinity of the river screen house and blowdown discharge flume. Accordingly, to reflect actual conditions, the 2011 National Land Cover Database (NLCD 2011) (see table below) was used to re-estimate the on-site land use acreages.

Under separate correspondence to the NRC, Exelon is providing revised versions of all text, tables and figures in the LSCS License Renewal ER that were erroneous because of the inaccurate depiction in the 1977 OL-ER of ownership boundaries for the makeup and blowdown pipelines right-of-way corridor. That submission is planned to occur during July 2015.

**List of Attachments:**

None.

### Land Cover Within LSCS Property Boundaries

NLCD Classification	Acreage	Percent of Total
Open Water	1,976 *	52.33%
Developed, Open Space	120	3.18%
Developed, Low Intensity	218	5.77%
Developed, Medium Intensity	73	1.93%
Developed, High Intensity	90	2.38%
Barren Land	5	0.13%
Deciduous Forest	386	10.22%
Shrub/Scrub	17	0.45%
Grassland / Herbaceous	473	12.53%
Pasture / Hay	11	0.29%
Cultivated Crops	346	9.16%
Woody Wetlands	58	1.54%
Emergent Herbaceous Wetlands	2	0.05%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,776</b>	<b>99.97%</b>

Source: 2011 National Land Cover Database (NLCD), <http://www.mrlc.gov/nlcd2011.php> (accessed 4/10/2015)

\* Based on updated information, the total acreage of the LSCS owner-controlled property is estimated using the NLCD 2011 to be approximately 3,776 ac. Of that, the NLCD 2011 identified 1,976 acres as “open water”, largely the cooling pond. This number of acres for the cooling pond is inconsistent with the 2,058 acres reported in the 1977 OL-ER. However, because the methodologies used to estimate land use acreages are different between the 1977 OL-ER and this response, and because both methodologies are inherently uncertain, the discrepancy between the cooling pond acreage estimates could not be resolved. It is possible that, in the 1977 OL-ER, features such as dikes, screen house, discharge canals, and storm water ponds were included in the cooling pond acreage estimate. Hence, all estimates should be considered as approximate.