

April 25, 2016

Ms. Lora L. Zimmerman
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Pennsylvania Field Office
110 Radnor Road, Suite 101
State College, PA 16801-4850

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
STATEMENT FOR THE BELL BEND NUCLEAR POWER PLANT COMBINED
LICENSE

Dear Ms. Zimmerman:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Baltimore District, as a cooperating agency, have completed the final environmental impact statement (EIS) for a combined license at the Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant site, located in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. A copy of the final EIS, NUREG-2179, "Environmental Impact Statement for the Combined License (COL) for the Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant," is included with this letter for your information. The comments received from the consulting parties and members of the public on the draft EIS were considered and responses are provided in Appendix E of the final EIS.

The NRC has completed formal consultation with your agency pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act regarding the Federally-listed endangered Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and threatened northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*). The NRC received a Biological Opinion from your agency on November 30, 2015.

A notice of availability of the final EIS is anticipated to be published by the NRC on April, 28, 2016, in the *Federal Register*. The final EIS is available for public inspection at the NRC Public Document Room, located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, First Floor, Rockville, Maryland 20852, and from the publicly available records component of the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access Management System (ADAMS) under the Accession Numbers ML16111B169 and ML16111B193. The final EIS is also available directly on the NRC website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactors/col/bell-bend/documents.html#feis>.

L. Zimmerman

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If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Ms. Tomeka Terry, Environmental Project Manager, at 301-415-1488 or by e-mail at Tomeka.Terry@nrc.gov or Ms. Patricia Vokoun, Environmental Project Manager, at 301-415-3470 or by e-mail at Patricia.Vokoun@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Jennifer Dixon-Herrity, Chief
Environmental Projects Branch
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

Docket No. 52-039

Enclosures:
As stated

L. Zimmerman

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If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Ms. Tomeka Terry, Environmental Project Manager, at 301-415-1488 or by e-mail at Tomeka.Terry@nrc.gov or Ms. Patricia Vokoun, Environmental Project Manager, at 301-415-3470 or by e-mail at Patricia.Vokoun@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Jennifer Dixon-Herrity, Chief
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Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

Docket No. 52-039

Enclosures:
As stated

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RidsOpaMail Resource	EPB R/F	RidsNroDsea Resource
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ADAMS Accession Number: ML16089A164

*via email

NRO-002

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