

Mark D. Mitchell  
Vice President - Generation Construction  
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February 20, 2017

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Attention: Document Control Desk  
Washington, D. C. 20555

Serial No. NA3-17-004  
Docket No. 52-017  
COL/KJM

**DOMINION VIRGINIA POWER**  
**NORTH ANNA UNIT 3 COMBINED LICENSE APPLICATION**  
**BARGE TRANSPORT ON MATTAPONI RIVER**

On December 9, 2016, the NRC submitted a Supplemental Biological Assessment (BA) (ML16312A319) to the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). The Supplemental BA supports the consultation between the NRC and USFWS under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Among other impacts, the Supplemental BA evaluated potential impacts to Sensitive Joint-Vetch (*Aeschynomene virginica*) along the Mattaponi River from barges transporting large components to a roll-off facility near Walkerton, VA.

Subsequent interactions between the NRC and USFWS focused on potential measures to identify and mitigate any adverse impacts to the Sensitive Joint-Vetch populations along the barge transport route. To ensure adequate protection of potential Sensitive Joint-Vetch along the river, Dominion makes the following commitment:

In addition to the actions described in the Supplemental Biological Assessment for the North Anna Power Station Combined License Application, dated December 2016, Dominion will commit to measures for avoiding impacts to Sensitive Joint-Vetch (*Aeschynomene virginica*) populations in areas of the Mattaponi River shorelines from West Point to Walkerton, VA, which could be impacted, directly or indirectly, by tugboat operations associated with barge transport activity. A report will be submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, for review and concurrence, not later than 6 months prior to commencement of barge transport activity. An information copy of the report will be sent to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The report will document and describe the measures that will be taken to avoid, minimize, and mitigate the effects of barge transport activity on Sensitive Joint-Vetch habitat. Avoidance and minimization measures can be applied to all suitable habitat for Sensitive Joint-Vetch or populations identified by a valid survey. If surveys are used to document the location of Sensitive Joint-Vetch populations, they will be conducted by an approved surveyor during the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's preferred survey window of August 15 to October 15 and within 18 months of the planned

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commencement of North Anna Unit 3 project-related barge transport activity on the Mattaponi River. As this is a multi-year project, additional surveys may need to be conducted annually over the course of the project in areas that could be impacted by tugboat operations associated with barge transport activity.

Please contact Keith Miller at (804) 273-2569. (keith.j.miller@dom.com) if you have questions.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark D. Mitchell". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "M" and a cursive "D".

Mark D. Mitchell

Enclosures:

1. None

Commitments made by this letter:

1. Dominion commits to avoiding impacts to Sensitive Joint-Vetch from barge transport activity on the Mattaponi River as detailed on pages 1-2 of letter NA3-17-004.

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

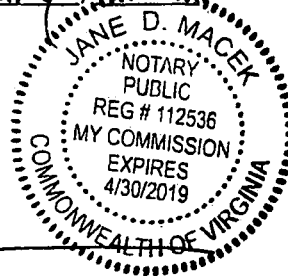
COUNTY OF HENRICO

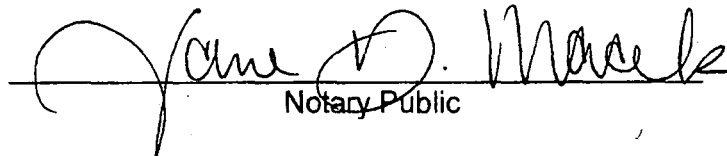
The foregoing document was acknowledged before me, in and for the County and Commonwealth aforesaid, today by Mark D. Mitchell, who is Vice President-Generation Construction of Virginia Electric and Power Company (Dominion Virginia Power). He has affirmed before me that he is duly authorized to execute and file the foregoing document on behalf of the Company, and that the statements in the document are true to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Acknowledged before me this 20<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2017

My registration number is 112536 and my

Commission expires: 4-30-2019



  
Notary Public

cc: U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region II  
J. J. Shea, Jr., NRC  
M. A. Eudy, NRC  
T. S. Dozier, NRC  
G. Croon, NRC  
D. Paylor, VDEQ  
M. K. Brandon, DTE  
R. J. Bell, NEI