



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Federal Building, Fort Snelling
Twin Cities, Minnesota 55111

IN REPLY REFER TO:

AFA-SE

SEP 14 1979

Mr. Ronald L. Ballard, Chief
Environmental Projects Branch
Division of Site Safety & Environmental Analysis
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Ballard:

This is in response to your letter of September 5, 1979 (Docket No. 50-502) requesting endangered species information for a proposed nuclear power plant in Wisconsin. This plant will be a cooperative venture of the Wisconsin Electric Power Company, the Wisconsin Power and Light Company, and the Wisconsin Public Service Corporation.

Based upon information currently available, the Haven (Sheboygan County), Kenosha (Kenosha County), and Koshkonong (Jefferson County) sites are not within the known or historic range of any threatened (T), endangered (E), or proposed (P) species. The Wood and Grant sites, however, are within the known or historic range of the following species:

Wood Site, Wood County

Karner Blue Butterfly (P)

(Lycaeides melissa samuelis)

Grant Site, Grant County

Indiana Bat (E)

(Myotis sodalis)

Peregrine Falcon (E)

(Falco peregrinus)

Bald Eagle (T)

(Haliaeetus leucocephalus)

Mead's Milkweed (P)

(Asclepias meadii)

There is no critical habitat currently designated in the vicinity of the project.

In accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, the Federal agency responsible for actions authorized, funded, or carried out in furtherance of the project is required to conduct a biological assessment for the purpose of identifying endangered, threatened, or proposed species likely to be affected by the action. If the biological assessment indicates the presence of such species the formal consultation process should be initiated. This can be done by writing to the Regional Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Federal Building, Fort Snelling, Twin Cities, Minnesota 55111.

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The biological assessment is to be completed within 180 days of initiation and before contracts are entered into or construction begun.

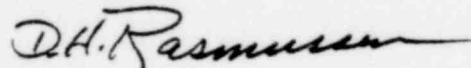
The assessment should address the Wood and Grant sites and include the following information:

1. The results of the comprehensive survey of the area.
2. The results of any studies undertaken to determine the nature and extent of any impacts on identified species.
3. The agency's consideration of cumulative effects on the species or its critical habitat.
4. The study methods used.
5. Difficulties encountered in obtaining data and completing the proposed study.
6. Conclusions of the agency including recommendations as to further studies.
7. Any other relevant information.

This letter provides comment only on the endangered species aspect of the project. Comments on other aspects of the project under the authority of and in accordance with the provisions of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et. seq.) may be sent under separate cover.

If there are any questions regarding the biological assessment or how it applies to the consultation process, please contact the Region 3 Endangered Species Office at 612-725-3596.

Sincerely yours,



D. H. Rasmussen
Acting Regional Director

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