



United States Department of the Interior
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
DIVISION OF ECOLOGICAL SERVICES
FEDERAL BUILDING, ROOM 334
BRUNSWICK, GEORGIA 31520

October 16, 1984

50-424

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Licensing Branch # 4
Division of Licensing
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Attn: Elinor G. Adensam, Chief

Dear Sir/Madam:

The Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) has reviewed the October 10, 1984 letter from Mr. D. O. Foster, Georgia Power Company, addressed to the Director, Nuclear Reactor Regulation, which outlines additional information concerning the proposed transmission line crossing over Ebenezer Creek.

A biologist of the FWS made an on-site inspection of the area with representatives of Georgia Power. The site of the proposed transmission towers was investigated and the plans as described in the October 10, 1984 letter were discussed. We understand that the towers will now be 195 feet (165 feet to the conductor attachment) and will be sited on the bluff at the south edge; at the north edge of the large cypress and tupelo gum stands (Station 124.00); and in the cleared area north of the Old Augusta Road (Station 135.00). A 175-foot tower will be sited in the cleared area on the north side of the landmark. These heights should result in conductor clearances sufficiently high so there will be no need to trim or cut any of the trees except at the site of the tower at Station 124.00.

The location of one of the towers has been moved back from the main channel of Ebenezer Creek approximately 100 feet to Station 124.00. Construction of this tower will require clearing approximately 100 ft x 100 ft in an area of predominantly second growth bottomland hardwoods.

The access road will not exceed 20' in width and would be constructed by selectively clearing a corridor along the right-of-way from Old Augusta Road to the tower site. Larger trees will be avoided. We strongly recommend that the possibility of obtaining permission from the property owner to use the old logging road be pursued.

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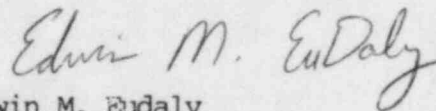
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We have one additional recommendation to make regarding construction of the access road. Any permanent water sloughs, or defined channels, should be crossed with box-type or other large culverts to allow free flow of water through the swamp. We would recommend that the culverts be included as a condition in our review of a Corps of Engineers permit for this work.

The plans and guidelines as proposed in the Georgia Power Company letter of October 10, 1984 would alleviate the concerns expressed in our letter to Mr. Dan Warren dated September 25, 1984. We would not object to issuance of a Corps of Engineers permit for this work if it conforms to the Georgia Power October 10, 1984 letter and contains provisions for any necessary culverts.

We appreciate Georgia Power's concern for environmental factors in this project. Please contact us if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Edwin M. Eudaly". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Edwin M. Eudaly
Acting Field Supervisor

cc: Dr. Germain LaRoche, NRC, Washington, DC