



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

Teleconference with National Marine Fisheries Service Regarding Oyster Creek Nuclear
Generating Station Endangered Species Act Section 7 Consultation

May 7, 2020

TELECONFERENCE DATE

April 28, 2020

PARTICIPANTS

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)

Briana Grange, Conservation Biologist & ESA Consultation Coordinator

Robert Elliott, Environmental Review License Renewal Branch Chief

Zahira Cruz, Project Manager

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)

Julie Crocker, Endangered Fish Recovery Branch Chief

Holtec Decommissioning International (HDI)

Andrea Sterdis, Vice President Regulatory and Environmental Affairs

Edwin O'Brien, Senior Environmental Chemist

James Frank, Regulatory Assurance Lead Decommissioning

Steven Walker, HDI

BACKGROUND

- On April 30, 2019, the NRC requested to reinitiate consultation with the NMFS related to Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station (Oyster Creek) to address (1) the exceedance of the allowable take of loggerhead sea turtles (*Caretta caretta*) specified in the NMFS's November 21, 2011, biological opinion, and (2) the permanent cessation of power generation and subsequent decommissioning of Oyster Creek.
- The teleconference was scheduled to discuss implementation of the new biological opinion, once issued.

TELECONFERENCE NOTES

- The parties reviewed NMFS's April 22, 2020, email concerning (1) the handling of sea turtles that appear at Oyster Creek and are injured or dead due to non-Oyster Creek impacts and (2) NRC and HDI obligations with respect to conservation recommendations.
- HDI asked how the above items would be formally documented. NMFS stated that it could include these items in the cover letter to the biological opinion.
- NMFS stated that it does not have any follow-up questions on either the NRC's or HDI's comments on the draft biological opinion. NMFS is working to finalize the biological opinion

and issue it before June 1.

- NRC confirmed that the new biological opinion will take effect immediately and will replace the old opinion.

FOLLOW UP ACTIONS

- **NMFS** will finalize the biological opinion by June 1.
- **NRC** will formally transmit the biological opinion, once issued, to HDI with a cover letter stating that the new biological opinion replaces the old biological opinion.

Docket Nos.: 50-219

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