



**UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE**

DIVISION of ECOLOGICAL SERVICES  
17629 EL CAMINO REAL, SUITE 211  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77058

May 30, 1985

Consultation No. 2-13-85-I-41

Mr. George Knighton, Chief  
Licensing Branch No. 3  
Division of Licensing  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Knighton:

This responds to your letter dated May 2, 1985 requesting information on species federally listed or proposed to be listed as threatened or endangered. The proposed action involves the operation of the South Texas Nuclear Station Units 1 & 2 and associated transmission lines. Your geographic area of interest is Matagorda, Wharton, Colorado, Fayette, Jackson, Brazoria, Lavaca, Victoria, DeWitt, Gonzales, Guadalupe, Comal and Bexar Counties, Texas.

On May 3, 1985, members of my staff met with Mssrs. Jerry LaRoche and Charles Billups of your staff. The purpose of the meeting was, as you've stated in the subject letter, to "assure a thorough review" of available data with emphasis on updating information analyzed during the construction/licensing phase of the South Texas Nuclear Station.

Issues discussed at the meeting included:

1. the affect upon species federally listed or proposed to be listed as threatened or endangered by the operational phase of the powerlines shown in your map,
2. the affect upon species federally listed or proposed to be listed as threatened or endangered by the operational phase of drawdown water discharge into the Colorado River, and
3. the affects upon the aquatic ecosystem of the Colorado River from the discharge of the drawdown water.

In addressing each of the issues listed above, we were advised that each of the three transmission powerlines were already in existance and in operation. Assuming that the proper consultation procedures were followed prior to their construction, the association of each powerline with the South Texas Nuclear Project should not change the original "affect" determination. However, changes in powerline specifications could change the original determination. Therefore, if powerline specifications are changed, the following species would be affected:

8506040152 850530  
PDR ADOCK 05000498  
A PDR

COO2  
1/0



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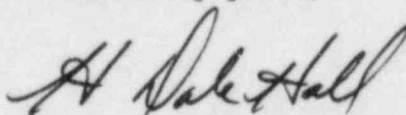
<u>County</u>	<u>Species</u>
Jackson, DeWitt, Gonzales	Whooping crane ( <u>Grus americana</u> )
Guadalupe and Lavaca	Attwater's prairie-chicken ( <u>Tympanuchus cupido attwateri</u> )
	Bald eagle ( <u>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</u> )
Fayette	None
Colorado	Bald eagle ( <u>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</u> )
	Attwater's prairie-chicken ( <u>Tympanuchus cupido attwateri</u> )
Wharton	Bald eagle ( <u>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</u> )
Matagorda	Brown pelican ( <u>Pelecanus occidentalis</u> )
	Bald eagle ( <u>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</u> )
Brazoria	Brown pelican ( <u>Pelecanus occidentalis</u> )
	Bald eagle ( <u>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</u> )
	Jaguarundi ( <u>Felis yagouaroundi cacomitti</u> )

With regards to Item 2 above, our data indicate no listed species would be affected by the proposed action.

Aside from the endangered species analysis, the EIS you will be preparing should address potential impacts to the aquatic ecosystem of the Colorado River from drawdown water discharge. Specifically, data pertaining to water temperature changes, mixing zone size and effluent quality should be included.

If we can be of further assistance, please call our office at (713) 229-3681 or FTS 526-7681.

Sincerely yours,



H. Dale Hall  
Field Supervisor

CHM/psm

cc: SE, Texas Parks and Wildlife, Austin, TX