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NP-08-0025
December 16, 2008

10 CFR 52.75

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Subject: Exelon Nuclear Texas Holdings, LLC
Victoria County Station, Units 1 and 2
Submittal of Additional Environmental Data in Support of Combined
License Application
NRC Docket Nos. 52-031 and 52-032

- References:**
- 1. Exelon Nuclear Texas Holdings, LLC letter to USNRC, "Application for Combined Licenses for Victoria County Station, Units 1 and 2," dated September 2, 2008**
 - 2. Exelon Nuclear Texas Holdings, LLC letter to USNRC, "Submittal of Additional Geological Data and Environmental Monitoring Status Update in Support of Combined License Application," dated October 16, 2008**
 - 3. Exelon Nuclear Texas Holdings, LLC letter to USNRC, "Submittal of Additional Environmental Data in Support of Combined License Application," dated November 13, 2008**

In Reference 1, Exelon Nuclear Texas Holdings, LLC (Exelon) submitted an application for a combined license (COL) for Victoria County Station (VCS), Units 1 and 2. That submittal consisted of eleven parts, as described in the referenced letter, and a separate part containing Safeguards Information provided under separate cover.

In addition to the contents of the application, Exelon is providing the enclosed supplemental information in support of the review of the VCS Units 1 and 2 COL application (COLA). As previously discussed in Reference 2 and Reference 3, the following information is enclosed:

Enclosure 1, "Surveys of Aquatic Biota, Exelon Victoria County Site, Trip Report – October 2008;" and

Enclosure 2, "Groundwater Level Measurements (FSAR Table 2.4.12-205 and ER Table 2.3.1-23)," which includes groundwater level monitoring data collected from October 2007 through November 2008.

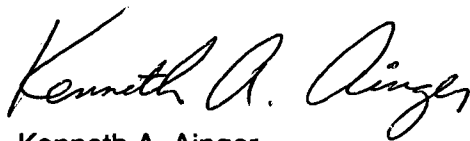
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The content of this submittal has been previously discussed with the NRC. In accordance with those discussions and the referenced letters, additional groundwater level monitoring data and aquatic ecology survey data will be provided to the NRC in future submittals.

If any additional information is needed, please contact David J. Distel at (610) 765-5517 or Joshua Trembley at (610) 765-5345.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on the 16th day of December 2008.

Respectfully,



Kenneth A. Ainger
Director – New Plant Licensing

- Enclosures: 1. Surveys of Aquatic Biota, Exelon Victoria County Site, Trip Report – October 2008
2. Groundwater Level Measurements (FSAR Table 2.4.12-205 and ER Table 2.3.1-23)

cc: USNRC, Project Manager, VCS, Division of New Reactor Licensing
(w/enclosures – one copy)
USNRC Region IV, Regional Administrator (w/enclosures – one copy)

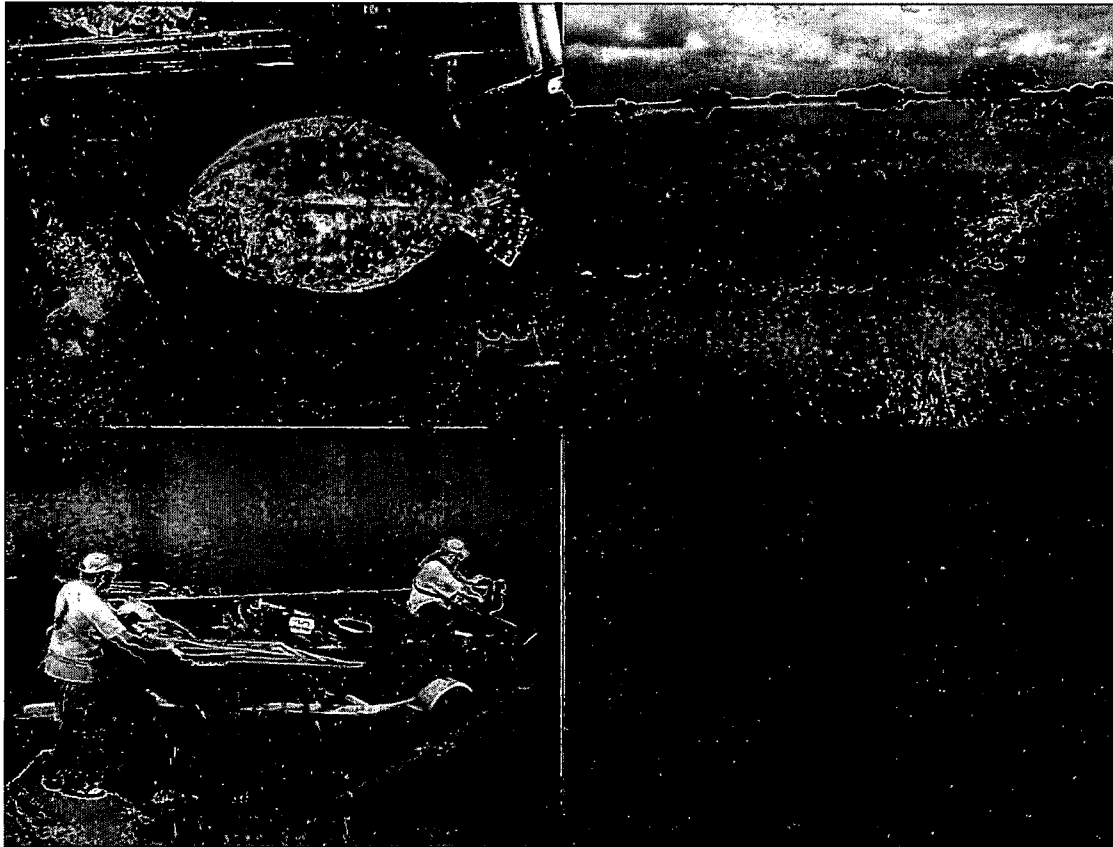
Enclosure 1

**Surveys of Aquatic Biota
Exelon Victoria County Site**

Trip Report – October 2008

Surveys of Aquatic Biota Exelon Victoria County Site

Trip Report - October 2008



October 2008

The purpose of this trip report is to describe sampling conditions and provide a general update of progress on the Surveys of Aquatic Biota for the Exelon Victoria County Site. One on-site aquatic sampling effort and one off-site fish sampling/ichthyoplankton trip were conducted during October. On-site sampling was conducted during the week of October 13-17, 2008, and off-site sampling was conducted the following week (Oct. 20-24). Flows at the USGS gauge on the Guadalupe River at Victoria (USGS #08176500) during river sampling activities were the lowest observed over the study period and ranged from approximately 350-450 cubic feet per second (cfs).

On-site aquatic sampling was conducted by Jeremy Hull (Fisheries Biologist), Brad Littrell (Fisheries Biologist), Benjamin Chen (Coastal Ecologist), and Rick Manning (Senior Ecologist) beginning on October 13th. Of the twelve on-site aquatic sampling stations located on the Exelon Victoria County Site, only four (MC-01, MC-04, MC-07, and MC-11) had water during October sampling, and one of these (MC-04) was simply a puddle. Minnow traps and sunfish traps were set overnight at each location, and seining was conducted the following day at each site. A total of 508 individual fish representing 17 species were captured during October on-site aquatic sampling. No new species were captured during on-site sampling.

Off-site sampling began on October 20, and was conducted by Jeremy Hull (Fisheries Biologist), Brad Littrell (Fisheries Biologist), and Melissa Romigh (Ecologist). Electrofishing, water quality, and benthic sampling were conducted at sites GR-01, GR-02, and GR-03 on the first day. The following day (Tuesday, October 21), sites GR-04, GR-05, Goff Bayou, and the GBRA Main Canal were sampled. Night ichthyoplankton sampling was conducted later that night at the three specified sites (GR-05, Goff Bayou, and GBRA Canal). Afternoon ichthyoplankton sampling was conducted on Wednesday, October 22.

Electrofishing was conducted with a Smith-Root 5.0 GPP electrofisher mounted on a 15-foot aluminum john boat. At each electrofishing site, water quality measurements were taken at 1 meter below the surface, mid-depth, and bottom. Then, at least 900 seconds of shock time was conducted along a previously established transect. Fish were stored in a large livewell until sampling was complete, at which time they were identified, measured, weighed, and released (except for voucher specimens). Upon completion of fish sampling, benthic samples were collected from each of the five river sites (GR-01 through GR-05) using a Petite Ponar dredge. A three grab composite sample was taken from a representative transect near the middle of each site, placed in a labeled sample jar, and preserved with 95% ethanol.

Two new species were captured during off-site aquatic sampling in October. A hogchoker (*Trinectes maculatus*) was captured at GR-04, and a southern flounder (*Paralichthys lethostigma*) was captured at Goff Bayou. The occurrence of the southern flounder in Goff Bayou may be attributable to the saltwater intrusion that happened during September when high tides from Hurricane Ike overtopped the saltwater barrier on Goff Bayou. To date, fish sampling has resulted in capture of 49 species representing 22 families.

Ichthyoplankton sampling was conducted by towing paired nets at surface and at mid-depth using a custom designed towing apparatus mounted to a 15-foot aluminum john boat. Surface and mid-depth tows were conducted at each of the sites in the afternoon and at night. Samples were preserved in formalin and brought back to the BIO-WEST laboratory for sorting and identification. Based on observations made in the field, abundance of larval fishes seems to have decreased substantially compared to previous months. However, a fairly large number of bay anchovies and gulf menhaden were present in night samples from Goff Bayou, presumably as a result of the saltwater intrusion in September.

The thick mat of water hyacinth/water lettuce which prevents access to lower Goff Bayou was still present during the October sampling period. As a result, sampling was conducted upstream of this barrier as in previous months. Additionally, several small patches of water stargrass (*Heteranthera dubia*), a submerged macrophyte, were documented at the GBRA Canal for the first time during the study.

Enclosure 2

**Groundwater Level Measurements
(FSAR Table 2.4.12-205 and ER Table 2.3.1-23)**

