May 5, 2003

NOTE TO: FILE

FROM: Jack Cushing, Project Manager **/RA/**
Environmental Section
License Renewal & Environmental Impacts Program
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF TELECONFERENCE WITH THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY IN SUPPORT OF THE STAFF'S REVIEW OF THE FORT CALHOUN STATION, UNIT 1 LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION (TAC NO. MB3402)

On Wednesday, April 15, 2003, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) conducted a teleconference with representatives of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). A list of the people who participated is attached. (Attachment 1).

The purpose of the call was to discuss the EPA's comments on the NRC's Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS) for the Fort Calhoun Station, Unit 1 license renewal. In a letter dated April 10, 2003, EPA provided its comments pursuant to Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 309 of the Clean Water Act.

The NRC and the EPA discussed the comments provided in the April 10, 2003, letter. The EPA was under the impression that since the license renewal application was submitted 11 years prior to the operating license expiring in 2013 that the EIS may not be timely and may need to be updated. The NRC clarified the license renewal process to inform the EPA that if the NRC decides to issue the renewed license, it will do so by November 2003. The Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (FSEIS) will clarify when the decision would be made.

The EPA recommended that the NRC discuss the cumulative environmental impacts in regards to the Missouri River. However, after it was explained that there would not be an 11-year lead time, the EPA recommended that cumulative impacts for the Missouri river be addressed by explaining the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting process.

The NRC and the EPA discussed the recent thermal study conducted by the EPA with the help of the United States Geologic Service (USGS) and the Oregon Graduate Institute. The NRC stated that it was in the process of responding to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) concerning the thermal discharge from FCS and its effect on the pallid sturgeon. The information from the thermal study would be helpful in providing an answer to FWS. FWS was concerned if FCS discharge would have any effect at the confluence of the Missouri and Platte Rivers an area known to contain pallid sturgeons. Mr. Dunn stated that the discharge from FCS would experience overwhelming mixing and would be indistinguishable from ambient river water well before the confluence of the Missouri and the Platte Rivers.

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Docket no: 50-285

Attachment: As stated

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J. Cushing
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NAME	JCushing*	JTappert (REmch for)*
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LIST OF ATTENDEES

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA)

FORT CALHOUN STATION, UNIT 1

APRIL 15, 2003

TELECONFERENCE

Attendees	**Affiliation**
Joe Cothern	EPA
Chris Campbell	Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL)
Jack Cushing	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)
John Dunn	EPA
Ken Zahn	LLNL