

August 12, 2003

Mr. Rick Nelson
Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
4469 48th Avenue Court
Rock Island, IL 61201

SUBJECT: EXPANDED SCOPE OF QUAD CITIES NUCLEAR POWER STATION
APPLICATION FOR OPERATING LICENSE RENEWAL - REQUEST FOR
COMMENTS

Dear Mr. Nelson:

This letter requests comments regarding the expanded scope of the environmental review associated with the proposed license renewal for Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station, Units 1 and 2 (QCNPS).

First, thank you for your letter of June 6, 2003, responding to our March 12, 2003, letter which requested comments on the application submitted by Exelon Generation Company, LLC (Exelon) for the renewal of the operating licenses for QCNPS, located on the east bank of Pool 14 of the Mississippi River near Cordova, Illinois. To support the preparation of an environmental impact statement and to ensure compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the NRC staff requested information on protected, proposed and candidate species and critical habitat which may be in the vicinity of QCNPS and its associated transmission lines. In addition, we requested that you provide any information considered appropriate under the provisions of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (FWCA).

As you may be aware from our March 12, 2003, letter, as part of the process for review of the license renewal application, the NRC staff is preparing a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement under the provision of the National Environmental Policy Act. This will include analyses of pertinent environmental issues, including impacts to endangered or threatened species.

Based on new information provided by Exelon in response to an NRC staff request for additional information, the scope of the transmission lines included in this environmental review has been expanded since our March 12, 2003, letter. Specifically, the Davenport, Barstow, South Nelson and North Nelson lines have been extended as follows:

The Davenport Line (0401): Our March 12, 2003, letter stated this line was 12.8 miles from the QCNPS site to Substation 91. The portion of the line applicable to this environmental review has now been extended to a total length of 27 miles from QCNPS to Substation 56.

The Barstow Line (0402): Our letter stated this line was 2 miles long. It ended at the Cordova Energy Station. The portion of this line applicable to this environmental review now runs 17.5 miles from QCNPS to the Barstow Substation.

The South Nelson Line (0403): Our letter stated this line was 2 miles long. It also ended at the Cordova Energy Station. The portion of this line applicable to our review now runs 41.9 miles from QCNPS to the Nelson Substation.

The North Nelson Line (0404): Our letter stated this line was 33 miles long. It ended in Rock Falls, Illinois at the Northwestern Steel and Wire Company. The portion of this line applicable to our review now runs 39.7 miles from QCNPS to the Nelson Substation.

The Rock Creek Line (0405) remains the same as stated in our March 12, 2003, letter.

As provided for by the ESA and FWCA, we request that you consider what effects the expanded scope of the project may have on endangered and threatened species of fish and wildlife. Please notify us of any issues which should be considered in our evaluation.

If you have any questions concerning the process for the NRC staff review of the license renewal application, please contact Mr. Louis Wheeler, Senior Project Manager, of my staff at (301) 415-1444 or via email at DXW@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Pao-Tsin Kuo, Program Director
License Renewal and Environmental Impacts
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos.: 50-237 and 50-249

Enclosure: QCNPS Transmission Line Map

cc w/encl.: See next page

The South Nelson Line (0403): Our letter stated this line was 2 miles long. It also ended at the Cordova Energy Station. The portion of this line applicable to our review now runs 41.9 miles from QCNPS to the Nelson Substation.

The North Nelson Line (0404): Our letter stated this line was 33 miles long. It ended in Rock Falls, Illinois at the Northwestern Steel and Wire Company. The portion of this line applicable to our review now runs 39.7 miles from QCNPS to the Nelson Substation.

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As provided for by the ESA and FWCA, we request that you consider what effects the expanded scope of the project may have on endangered and threatened species of fish and wildlife. Please notify us of any issues which should be considered in our evaluation.

If you have any questions concerning the process for the NRC staff review of the license renewal application, please contact Mr. Louis Wheeler, Senior Project Manager, of my staff at (301) 415-1444 or via email at DXW@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,
/RA/

Pao-Tsin Kuo, Program Director
License Renewal and Environmental Impacts
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Enclosure: QCNPS Transmission Line Map

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2. QC Transmission Lines
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