

January 6, 2004

Mr. Don Klima, Director  
Office of Federal Agency Programs  
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation  
Old Post Office Building  
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 809  
Washington, DC 20004

SUBJECT: EARLY SITE PERMIT REVIEW FOR THE GRAND GULF SITE

Dear Mr. Klima:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff is reviewing an application for an early site permit (ESP) submitted by System Energy Resources, Inc. (SERI) on October 16, 2003. An ESP allows an applicant to set aside a site for potential future construction of one or more new nuclear power plants, and provides the opportunity to resolve site safety and environmental issues before construction begins. An ESP does not allow actual construction of a nuclear plant, which must be requested through another application. The ESP site proposed by SERI is on property co-located with the existing Grand Gulf Power Station site near the town of Port Gibson in Claiborne County, Mississippi. The application was submitted by SERI pursuant to NRC requirements at Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 52 (10 CFR Part 52).

As part of its review of the application, the NRC staff will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) pursuant to 10 CFR Part 51, the NRC regulations that implement the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). In accordance with 36 CFR 800.8, the EIS will include analyses of potential impacts to historic and cultural resources. A draft EIS is scheduled for publication in February 2005, and will be provided to you for review and comment.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Ms. Cristina Guerrero at 301-415-2981 or [CXG3@nrc.gov](mailto:CXG3@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 No.: 52-009

cc: See next page

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Docket No.: 52-009

cc: See next page

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