



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

3817 Luker Road
Cortland, NY 13045

January 26, 2004

Proj 720
52-009

Mr. Pao-Tsin Kuo
Program Director
License Renewal & Environmental Impacts
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Attention: Ms. Cristina Guerrero

Dear Mr. Kuo:

This responds to your letter of January 6, 2004, requesting information on the presence of endangered or threatened species in the vicinity of the proposed Grand Gulf ESP alternate site, the Fitzpatrick Nuclear Power Plant, in the Town of Scriba, Oswego County, New York.

Except for occasional transient individuals, no Federally listed or proposed endangered or threatened species under our jurisdiction are known to exist in the project impact area. In addition, no habitat in the project impact area is currently designated or proposed "critical habitat" in accordance with provisions of the Endangered Species Act (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.). Therefore, no further Endangered Species Act coordination or consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is required. Should project plans change, or if additional information on listed or proposed species or critical habitat becomes available, this determination may be reconsidered. The most recent compilation of Federally listed and proposed endangered and threatened species in New York* is available for your information.

The above comments pertaining to endangered species under our jurisdiction are provided pursuant to the Endangered Species Act. This response does not preclude additional Service comments under other legislation.

For additional information on fish and wildlife resources or State-listed species, we suggest you contact the appropriate New York State Department of Environmental Conservation regional office(s),* and:

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New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
New York Natural Heritage Program Information Services
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-4757
(518) 402-8935

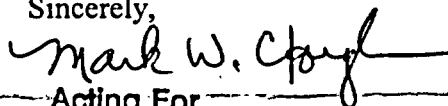
Since wetlands may be present, you are advised that National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) maps may or may not be available for the project area. However, while the NWI maps are reasonably accurate, they should not be used in lieu of field surveys for determining the presence of wetlands or delineating wetland boundaries for Federal regulatory purposes. Copies of specific NWI maps can be obtained from:

Cornell Institute for Resource Information Systems
302 Rice Hall
Cornell University
Ithaca, NY 14853
(607) 255-4864

Work in certain waters of the United States, including wetlands, may require a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps). If a permit is required, in reviewing the application pursuant to the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, the Service may concur, with or without recommending additional permit conditions, or recommend denial of the permit depending upon potential adverse impacts on fish and wildlife resources associated with project construction or implementation. The need for a Corps permit may be determined by contacting the appropriate Corps office(s).*

If you require additional information or assistance please contact Michael Stoll at (607) 753-9334.

Sincerely,



Acting For

David A. Stilwell
Field Supervisor

*Additional information referred to above may be found on our website at:
<http://nyfo.fws.gov/es/esdesc.htm>.

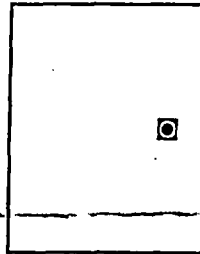
cc: NYSDEC, Syracuse, NY (Environmental Permits)
NYSDEC, Albany, NY (Natural Heritage Program)
COE, Buffalo, NY

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
New York Field Office
3817 Luker Road
Cortland, NY 13045

To provide a timely response to future requests for endangered species comments in New York, please include the following in future inquiries:

1. A concise brief description of the project/action.
2. Name of the hamlet/village/city/town/county where the project/action occurs.
3. The latitude and longitude of the project/action, i.e.: 42° 13' 28" / 76° 56' 30". If the project/action is linear, you may provide coordinates for both ends or just one near center.
4. A map showing the project/action location. Preferrably the map should be a U.S. Geological Survey quadrangle map (USGS Quad). You need only provide a copy of that portion where the project/action occurs. Please provide the name(s) of the USGS quadrangle.

If providing only a portion, indicate where the portion would be located on the full quadrangle, i.e.



Providing the information above will assist us in responding to your needs.

If you require additional information please contact Michael Stoll at (607) 753-9334.