



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

New England Field Office
70 Commercial Street, Suite 300
Concord, New Hampshire 03301-5087



RE: Application for an early site permit (ESP)
Grand Gulf ESP Site

February 9, 2004

Pao-Tsin Kuo
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulations
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington D.C. 20555-0001

Proj 720
52-009

Dear Mr. Kuo:

I have reviewed your request for information on endangered and threatened species and their habitats for the above-referenced project. My comments are provided in accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543). This letter addresses only the compliance with the Section 7 of the ESA and not the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act of 1934.

This office has reviewed the proposed alternative site in Plymouth County, Massachusetts. The following is a list of federally-threatened or endangered species found in the county: northern red-bellied cooter (*Chrysemys rubriventris bangsi*), roseate tern (*Sterna dougallii dougallii*), piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*), and bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*). In order to comply with the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act and the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act (310 CMR 10), we suggest that you consult with the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program, Route 135, Westborough, MA 01581, telephone (508) 792-7270, extension 200, for information on state-listed species that are present.

Thank you for your cooperation and please contact me at 603-223-2541, extension 23, if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Michael J. Amaral

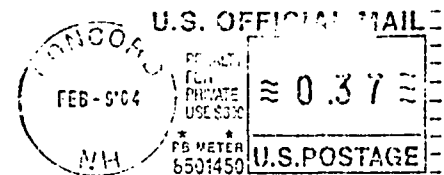
Michael J. Amaral
Endangered Species Specialist
New England Field Office

P069

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

70 COMMERCIAL ST, SUITE 300
CONCORD, NH 03301-5037

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300



126

20555+0001



11F1