



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
1208-B Main Street
Daphne, Alabama 36526

IN REPLY REFER TO:

04-0760b

December 1, 2004

Mr. Pao-Tsin Kuo, Program Director
License Renewal and Environmental Impacts
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Dear Mr. Kuo:

Thank you for your letter of October 25, 2004, providing the biological assessment for the review of re-licensing for an additional 20 year period of the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant (BFN) Units 1, 2, and 3 (BFN), located in Limestone County, Alabama, on the north bank of the Tennessee River. The Service has also received the Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants regarding Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, Units 1,2,and 3. We are providing the following comments in accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. et seq.) and the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

We have prepared this letter to acknowledge we have received your BA and the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) prepared for this project. As soon as our ongoing review of both documents and discussions with colleagues is completed, we will provide our final comments, as well as make a determination about whether formal consultation under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act will be necessary.

On December 1, 2004, Mr. Rob Hurt, Daphne FO biologist, contacted Dr. Michael Masnik, of your office, via the telephone, to discuss the status of our review of this project. Dr. Masnik informed Mr. Hurt of the public meeting scheduled at Athens State University in Athens, Alabama on January 25, 2005 and requested his attendance at one of the two sessions planned that day. Dr. Masnik also offered to meet with Mr. Hurt and other Service staff on January 26, 2005 to further discuss details of the project if needed.

We appreciate the opportunity to review the BFN re-license proposal and to work with your agency on this project. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Mr. Rob Hurt at (256) 353-7243 ext. 29. In correspondence, please refer to the reference number above.

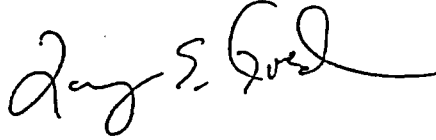
www.fws.gov

PHONE: 251-441-5181



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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Larry E. Goldman". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Larry E. Goldman
Field Supervisor

cc: Mr. Chuck Wilson, TVA-Nuclear, Chattanooga, TN
Ms. Peggy Shute, TVA, Knoxville, TN
Dr. Michael Masnik, US NRC, Washington, D.C.