

----- Forwarded by Joy Gober/R6/FWS/DOI on 04/12/05 01:00 PM -----

Joy Gober

To: CCCJG1@nrc.gov

04/12/05 11:19

cc: Scott Larson/R6/FWS/DOI@FWS AM

Subject: Impacts to T&E species from proposed decommissioning at Pathfinder facility,
Sioux Falls, SD

Mr. Glenn,

I received your email and fax of April 11, describing the proposed decommission of the Xcel Energy Pathfinder Facility. Descriptions of the nearby resources and wildlife species from the 1993 Final Environmental Impact Statement issued by Northern States Power Company were also provided. Based upon the information that you have provided, it is my understanding that the facility is located in Minnehaha County at 7100 East Rice Street, Sioux Falls (Latitude: 43 degrees 36' 11" N, and Longitude: 96 degrees 38" 14" W). The proposed decommissioning activities at the facility include remediation of low level radioactive waste from inside of the Turbine and Boiler buildings, shipment of that low level radioactive waste, and final status surveys. No building demolition or outside excavation is planned. It is also my understanding that the majority of radioactive material at this site was removed during previous remediation activities in 1992. Status surveys after the initial remediation noted no radioactivity in site soils, ground water, or surface water. After remediation, you have stated that these buildings will be used for other ongoing non-nuclear operations at the site.

Based upon the information provided and summarized in this email, we foresee no significant impact on federally listed threatened or endangered species or their habitats in Minnehaha County from the proposed decommissioning activities. Please feel free to contact our office if you have any questions.

Joy Gober

Biologist

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