

August 29, 2005

Lee Andrews, Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Kentucky Ecological Services Field Office
3761 Georgetown Road
Frankfort, KY 40601

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION REGARDING THREATENED AND
ENDANGERED SPECIES AND CRITICAL HABITATS FOR THE PROPOSED
LICENSE RENEWAL OF HONEYWELL'S METROPOLIS WORKS FACILITY

Dear Mr. Andrews:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) staff is requesting from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), a list of endangered, threatened, candidate, and proposed species, and designated and proposed critical habitats under the jurisdiction of the FWS, that may be in the vicinity of the Metropolis Works (MTW) facility in Metropolis, Illinois. Additionally, the NRC staff is requesting the FWS's expertise regarding the identification and assessment of potential impacts to threatened and endangered species and critical habitats in the vicinity of the MTW site. This letter is in follow-up to a phone conversation on August 17, 2005, between Tony Velasco of the FWS's Kentucky Ecological Services Field Office and Neil Haggerty of the NRC's environmental review staff.

The NRC staff is currently reviewing an application submitted by Honeywell Specialty Materials, Inc., to renew the MTW facility's Source Material License, SUB-526, for a period of 10 years. The MTW site is located approximately one half mile northwest of the Metropolis, Illinois city limits, in Massac County at the southern tip of Illinois. Because the facility is located in close proximity to the Commonwealth of Kentucky and produces liquid effluents that are discharged to the Ohio River, the NRC staff is requesting information regarding threatened and endangered species and critical habitats from the FWS Southeast Region (Region 4), as well as the Midwest Region (Region 3) in which the facility is located.

As part of the environmental review, the NRC staff is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, as specified in 10 CFR Part 51 of the NRC's regulations. In support of the environmental review, the NRC staff is also considering the potential impact of the proposed action on endangered species, in accordance with the Endangered Species Act. A summary of the information that will be considered in this assessment, including a site location map, is enclosed as an aid.

To support a timely review of the Honeywell license renewal application, the NRC staff is requesting that the information regarding threatened and endangered species and critical habitats be provided within 30 days. After assessing the information provided by you, we will determine what additional actions are necessary to comply with the Section 7 requirements of the Endangered Species Act.

L. Andrews

-2-

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Neil Haggerty of my staff by telephone at (301) 415-5196, or by e-mail at nxh3@nrc.gov. Written response can be provided to: Jennifer Davis, c/o Document Control Desk, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Mailstop T-7J08, Washington DC, 20555-0001. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

/RA/

B. Jennifer Davis, Chief
Environmental Review Section
Environmental and Performance
Assessment Directorate
Division of Waste Management
and Environmental Protection
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

- Enclosures: 1. Summary of Information for the Assessment of Impacts to Threatened and Endangered Species and Critical Habitats in the Vicinity of the Honeywell Metropolis Works Facility in Metropolis, Illinois (ML052310076)
2. Metropolis Works Site and Location Maps (ML052310381)

Docket No.: 40-3392

License No.: SUB-526

L. Andrews

-2-

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Neil Haggerty of my staff by telephone at (301) 415-5196, or by e-mail at nxh3@nrc.gov. Written response can be provided to: Jennifer Davis, c/o Document Control Desk, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Mailstop T-7J08, Washington DC, 20555-0001. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

/RA/

B. Jennifer Davis, Chief
Environmental Review Section
Environmental and Performance
Assessment Directorate
Division of Waste Management
and Environmental Protection
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

- Enclosures: 1. Summary of Information for the Assessment of Impacts to Threatened and Endangered Species and Critical Habitats in the Vicinity of the Honeywell Metropolis Works Facility in Metropolis, Illinois (ML052310076)
2. Metropolis Works Site and Location Maps (ML052310381)

Docket No.: 40-3392
License No.: SUB-526

DISTRIBUTION: SFlanders RNelson MRaddatz NHaggerty

ML052310280

OFC	DWMEP:PM		DWMEP:SC			
NAME	NHaggerty		BJDavis			
DATE	08/23/05		08/29/05			