



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

RULES AND DIRECTIVES
BRANCH
US-RC

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June 26, 2006

Chief, Rules Review and Directives Branch
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop T6-D59
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

RECEIVED

4/19/06

7/18/20142

**RE: EPA Review and Comments on
Final Generic Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (FGSEIS)
License Renewal of Nuclear Plants, Supplement 25
Regarding Brunswick Steam Electric Plant, Units 1 and 2
CEQ No. 20060148**

①

Dear Sir:

The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 4 reviewed the Final Generic Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (FGSEIS) for Brunswick Steam Electric Plant, Units 1 and 2, pursuant to Section 309 of the Clean Air Act, and Section 102 (2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The purpose of this letter is to provide the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) with EPA's comments regarding potential impacts of the proposed renewal of the Operating Licenses (OLs) for Brunswick Steam Electric Plant, Units 1 and 2.

Thank you for your responses to our comments on the DGSEIS, which are included in Appendix A of the FGSEIS. Based on EPA's review of the FGSEIS, environmental concerns continue to exist regarding aspects of the proposed project. Specifically, protecting the environment involves the continuing need for appropriate storage and ultimate disposition of radioactive wastes generated on-site, as well as continuing measures to limit bioentrainment and other impacts to aquatic species from surface water withdrawals and discharges. EPA appreciates your discussion on page A-10 related to the continuing measures you are taking to ensure compliance with the Clean Water Act, and your consultation with NCDENR to determine if any additional requirements are necessary for compliance with new performance standards related to Section 316b.

Also, emergency preparedness should be evaluated further, particularly regarding potential implications of a release to plant personnel or the public in the event of a major unintended release. Your response to our comment on page A-11 indicates that this issue will be addressed further as the relicensing process progresses. The FGSEIS acknowledges that OL renewal of the Brunswick Steam Electric Plant will require continuing radiological monitoring of all plant effluents.

SUNSE Review Complete

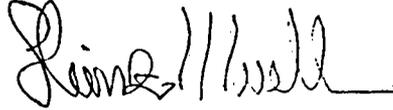
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*Att =
A. Williamson
(ARWI)*

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In conclusion, the FGSEIS states that the OL renewal would result in fewer environmental impacts than the feasible alternatives for generating power, and the NRC considers impacts of OL renewal to be small. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this document. If we can be of further assistance, please contact Ramona McConney of my staff at (404) 562-9615.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Heinz J. Mueller". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Heinz J. Mueller, Chief
Office of Environmental Assessment