

September 19, 2006

Marvin Moriarty  
Northeast Regional Office  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
300 Westgate Center Drive  
Hadley, MA 01035-9589

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR LIST OF PROTECTED SPECIES WITHIN THE AREA UNDER  
EVALUATION FOR THE JAMES A. FITZPATRICK NUCLEAR POWER PLANT  
LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION REVIEW

Dear Mr. Moriarty:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is reviewing an application submitted by Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (Entergy) for the renewal of the operating license for James A. Fitzpatrick Nuclear Power Plant (JAFNPP). JAFNPP is located on Lake Ontario in Oswego County, approximately seven miles northeast of the City of Oswego, New York (Latitude 43.52 N, Longitude 76.39 W). As part of the review of the license renewal application (LRA), the NRC is preparing a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) under the provisions of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 51 (10 CFR Part 51), the NRC regulations that implements the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. The SEIS includes an analysis of pertinent environmental issues, including endangered or threatened species and impacts to fish and wildlife. This letter is being submitted under the provisions of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act of 1934, as amended.

Entergy has stated that if a renewed license is granted, it has no plans to alter current operations over the license renewal period, and that JAFNPP would use existing plant facilities and transmission lines and would not require additional construction or disturbance of new areas. The JAFNPP site covers approximately 702 acres, of which approximately 21 acres is industrial. The area surrounding JAFNPP is largely forested and rural, characterized by rolling terrain rising gently up from the lake.

JAFNPP uses a once-through open-cycle cooling system with an intake and discharge on Lake Ontario. The shore-facing intake is located approximately 900 feet offshore. Water coming into the intake passes through trash racks and traveling water screens. JAFNPP operates a fish deterrence system installed at the offshore intake structure from April to October of each year as required by their New York SPDES Permit.

The discharge water is returned to the lake through a discharge tunnel and diffuser system. The discharge structure is located approximately 1,400 feet offshore. The transmission lines in the scope of NRC's environmental review for license renewal are those that were originally constructed for the specific purpose of connecting the plant to the transmission system.

A single 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission line was built to connect JAFNPP to the New York Power Pool transmission grid. The line runs from the plant switchyard to the Edic Substation located in Utica, New York. The transmission line right-of-way is 400 feet wide although only 150 feet were cleared for a total of 1,273 acres. The corridor passes through land that is primarily pine forest and swamp forest. There is also a short 345-kV transmission line from JAFNPP and the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station. It runs 4,900 feet from the plants switchyard to the National Grid Scriba Substation. In addition to the 345-kV lines, offsite power is provided to JAFNPP by two single circuit 115-kV transmission lines connected to the plant's 115-kV bus.

To support the SEIS preparation process and to ensure compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, the NRC requests information on Federally listed, proposed, and candidate species and critical habitat that may be in the vicinity of JAFNPP and its associated transmission line right-of-way. In addition, please provide any information you consider appropriate under the provisions of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act.

We plan to hold two public NEPA scoping meetings at 1:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. on October 12, 2006, at the Scriba Town Municipal Building, 42 Creamery Road, Oswego, New York, 13126. On December 04, 2006, we plan to conduct a site audit at the JAFNPP facility. You and your staff are invited to attend both public meetings and the site audit. Your office will receive a copy of the draft SEIS along with a request for comments. The anticipated publication date for the draft SEIS is August 2007.

If you have any questions concerning the NRC staff review of the license renewal application, please contact Mr. Samuel Hernandez, Environmental Project Manager at 301-415-4049 or by e-mail at [shq@nrc.gov](mailto:shq@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Rani Franovich, Branch Chief  
Environmental Branch B  
Division of License Renewal  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-333

Enclosures:

1. JAFNPP Location Map
2. Transmission Lines Map

cc w/encls: See next page

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**/RA/**

Rani Franovich, Branch Chief  
Environmental Branch B  
Division of License Renewal  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-333

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Letter to M. Moriarty from Rani Franovich, dated September 19, 2006

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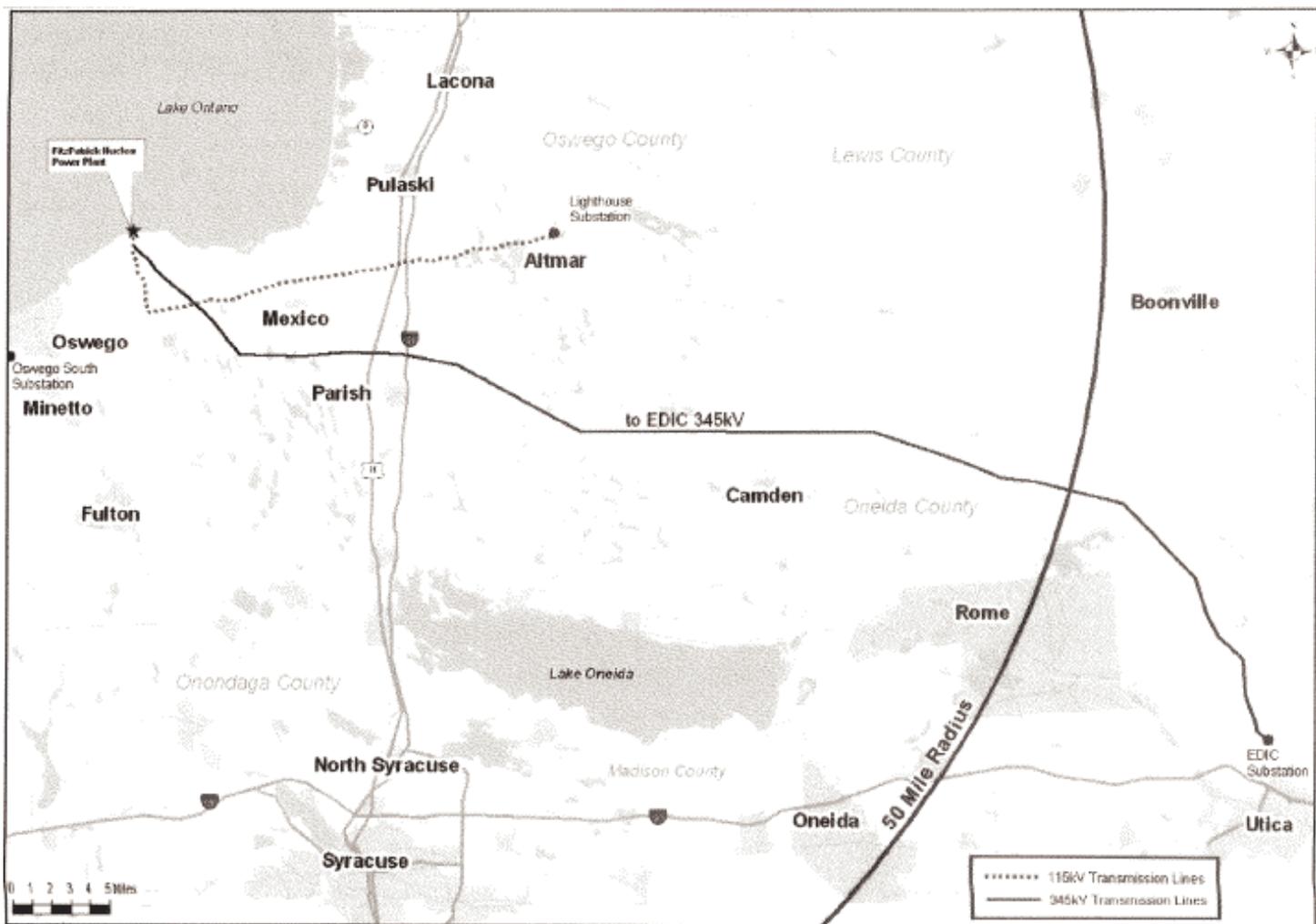
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FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant

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