November 14, 2006

The Honorable Tony Gonyea, Faithkeeper
Onondaga Nation
RR #1, Route 11A
Box 258C
via Nedrow, NY 13120

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR COMMENTS CONCERNING THE SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2, LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION REVIEW

Dear Mr. Gonyea:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is seeking input for its environmental review of an application from PPL Susquehanna, LLC (PPL), for the renewal of the operating licenses for the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station (SSES), Units 1 and 2, located along the Susquehanna River approximately five miles northeast of Berwick, Pennsylvania. SSES is in close proximity to lands that may be of interest to the Onondaga Nation. As described below, the NRC's process includes an opportunity for public and inter-governmental participation in the environmental review. We want to ensure that you are aware of our efforts and, pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 51.28(b) (10 CFR 51.28(b)), the NRC invites the Onondaga Nation to provide input to the scoping process relating to the NRC's environmental review of the application. In addition, as outlined in 36 CFR 800.8(c), the NRC plans to coordinate compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, through the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

Under NRC regulations, the original operating license for a nuclear power plant is issued for up to 40 years. The license may be renewed for up to an additional 20 years, if NRC requirements are met. The current operating licenses for SSES, Units 1 and 2, will expire on July 17, 2022, and March 23, 2024, respectively. PPL submitted its application for renewal of the SSES operating licenses in a letter dated September 13, 2006.

The NRC is gathering information for a SSES site-specific supplement to its "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants" (GEIS), NUREG-1437. The GEIS is a programmatic environmental impact statement; it documents the NRC staff's assessment of environmental impacts that would be associated with license renewal at any nuclear power plant site. The supplement to the GEIS will contain the results of the review of the environmental impacts on the area surrounding the SSES site that are related to terrestrial ecology, aquatic ecology, hydrology, cultural resources, and socioeconomic issues (among others), and will contain a recommendation regarding the environmental acceptability of the license renewal action. Enclosed for your information is a map showing the location of the SSES site.

To accommodate interested members of the public, the NRC will hold two identical public scoping meetings for the SSES license renewal supplement to the GEIS on November 15, 2006, at the Eagles Building, 107 South Market Street, Berwick, Pennsylvania. The first meeting will convene at 1:30 p.m. and will continue until 4:30 p.m., as necessary. The second meeting will convene at 7:00 p.m. and will continue until 10:00 p.m., as necessary. Additionally, the NRC staff will host informal discussions one hour before the start of each session. To be considered, comments must be provided either at the transcribed public meetings or in writing. No formal comments on the proposed scope of the supplement to the GEIS will be accepted during informal discussions.

The license renewal application (LRA) and the GEIS are publicly available at the NRC Public Document Room (PDR), located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland, 20852, or from the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). The ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room is accessible at http://adamswebsearch.nrc.gov/dologin.htm. The accession number for the LRA is ML062620157. Persons who do not have access to ADAMS, or who encounter problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, should contact the NRC's PDR reference staff by telephone at 1-800-397-4209, or 301-415-4737, or via e-mail at pdr@nrc.gov.

The SSES LRA is also available on the internet at http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal/applications/susquehanna.html. In addition, the following public libraries have agreed to make the LRA available for public inspection: Berwick Public Library, 205 Chestnut Street, Berwick, Pennsylvania, 18603; and the Mill Memorial Library, 495 E. Main Street, Nanticoke, Pennsylvania, 18634.

Please submit any comments the Onondaga Nation may have to offer on the scope of the environmental review by January 2, 2007. Written comments should be submitted by mail to the Chief, Rules and Directives Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Mail Stop T-6D59, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington D.C., 20555-0001. Electronic comments may be submitted to the NRC by e-mail at SusquehannaEIS@nrc.gov. At the conclusion of the scoping process, the NRC staff will prepare a summary of the significant issues identified and the conclusions reached, and mail a copy to you.

The staff expects to publish the draft supplement to the GEIS in December 2007. The NRC will hold another set of public meetings in the site vicinity to solicit comments on the draft. A copy of the draft supplemental environmental impact statement (SEIS) will be sent to you for your

review and comment. After consideration of public comments received on the draft, the NRC will prepare a final SEIS. The issuance of a final SEIS for SSES is planned for August 2008. If you need additional information regarding the environmental review process, please contact Ms. Alicia Mullins, Environmental Project Manager, at 301-415-1224 or via e-mail at axm7@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

Robert Schaaf for **/RA/**

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

Docket Nos. 50-387 and 50-388

Enclosure:
SSES Location Map

cc w/encl: See next page

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Rani L. Franovich, Branch Chief
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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-387 and 50-388

Enclosure:
SSES Location Map

cc w/encl: See next page

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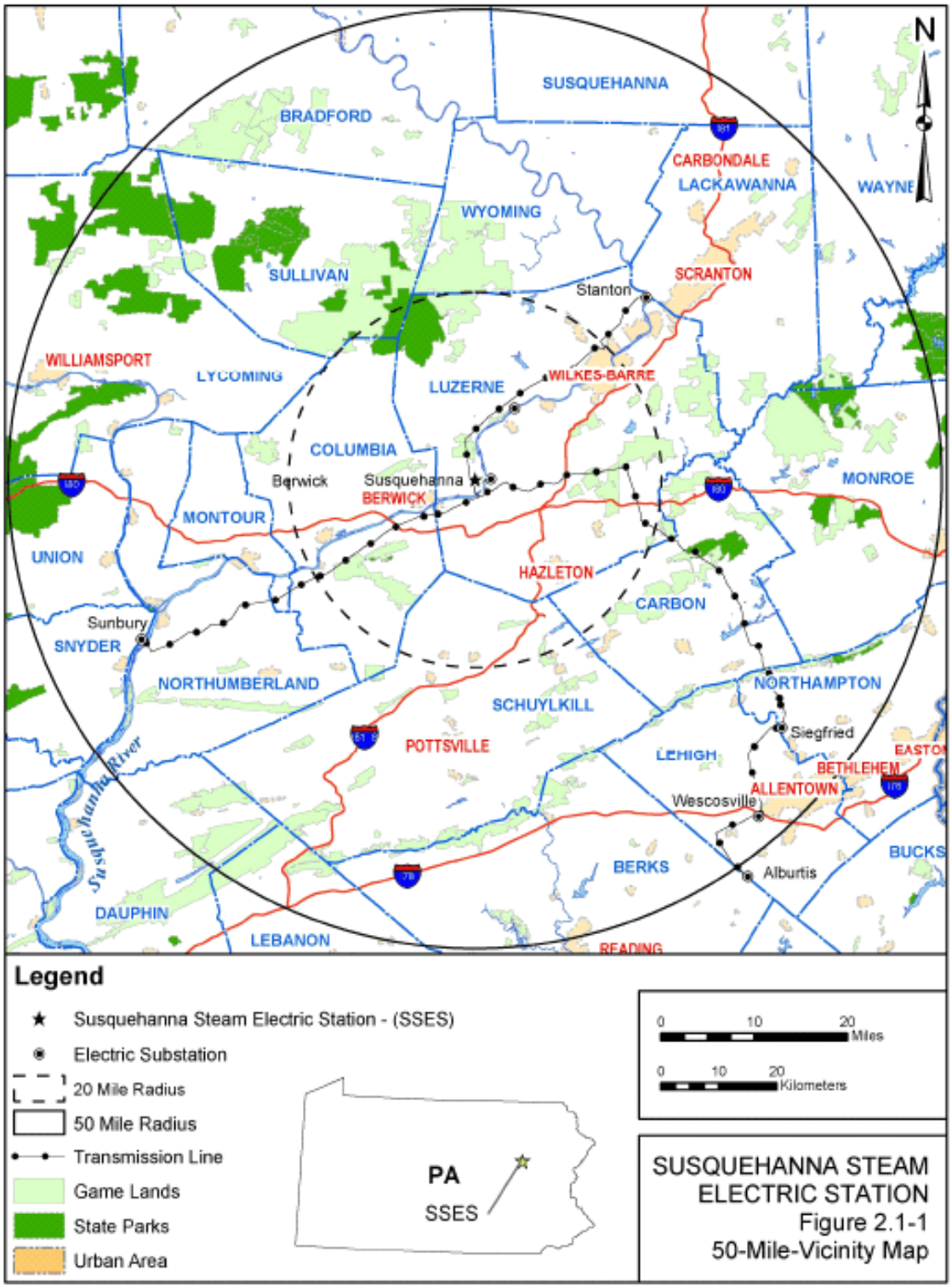
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BUCKS
Alburtis
DAUPHIN
LEBANON
READING
Legend
Susquehanna Steam Electric Station - (SSES)
Electric Substation
20 Mile Radius
50 Mile Radius
Transmission Line
Game Lands
State Parks
Urban Area
PA
SSES
0 10 20 Miles
0 10 20 Kilometers
SUSQUEHANNA STEAM
ELECTRIC STATION
Figure 2.1-1
50-Mile-Vicinity Map

Enclosure

Letter to T. Gonyea, from R. Franovich, dated: November 14, 2006

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR COMMENTS CONCERNING THE SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2, LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION REVIEW

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