



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION VII  
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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Mailstop T-6D 59  
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

12/07/06  
71FR 70997  
(3)

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: Wolf Creek Generation Station License Renewal,  
Coffey County, Kansas

This letter responds to your November 30, 2006, correspondence regarding National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance for the proposed Wolf Creek Generation Station License Renewal Project in Coffey County, Kansas. Thank you for including the EPA in your communications to identify the scope of the environmental review for this project.

Our main environmental and human health concerns with nuclear generating stations include safety, water quality, and spent fuel storage. The unintended release of tritium and strontium from plant operations and the impacts on groundwater is an emerging issue at some power plants, as well as the local impacts of transporting high-level waste (spent fuel) once a long-term repository is finalized. We recommend that these issues be analyzed and discussed in the EIS.

Impingement and entrainment at the intakes for the cooling system should also be addressed in the EIS. As you are probably aware, on January 26, 2007, the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit issued a decision remanding to EPA the 2004 Clean Water Act Section 316(b) Phase II rule, which regulates cooling water intake structures at existing power producing facilities, (Riverkeeper, Inc. v EPA, 2d Cir. Jan. 25, 2007). Although this decision may modify the regulation, 316(b) will still apply to the Wolf Creek facility.

We are also interested in how the Nuclear Regulatory Commission will address issues and actions that may arise between the license renewal date in 2009 and 2025 when the renewed license becomes effective. The useful 'life' of an EIS is considered to be 5 years; after that time period, additional analysis and documentation may be required.

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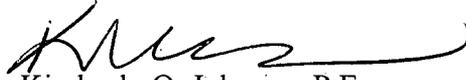
E-RIDS = ADM-03  
Att = V. Rodriguez  
(UMR1)  
C. Jacobs (C55)



For more information, see the Council of Environmental Quality's (CEQ) website <http://ceq.eh.doe.gov/nepa/nepanet.htm> and the "Forty Most Asked Questions Concerning CEQ's National Environmental Policy Act Regulations" (<http://ceq.eh.doe.gov/nepa/regs/40/30-40.HTM#32>).

Thank you again for including us in your scoping efforts for this project. We look forward to meeting with you in the future and reviewing the environmental impact statement. If you have any questions regarding this letter or need any additional information, please call me at 913-551-7975.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Johnson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kimberly O. Johnson, P.E.  
NEPA Reviewer