



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Pennsylvania Field Office
315 South Allen Street, Suite 322
State College, Pennsylvania 16801-4850



March 1, 2007

Ms. Rani Franovich, Branch Chief
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

RE: USFWS Project #2007-1111

Dear Ms. Franovich:

This responds to your letter of November 15, 2007, requesting information about federally listed and proposed endangered and threatened species within the area affected by the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station license renewal project located in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. The proposed project is located within the range of the Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), a species that is federally listed as endangered. The following comments are provided pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) to ensure the protection of endangered and threatened species.

Based on a telephone conversation with Nathan Goodman on February 20, 2007, we have been advised that the only disturbance to the site would be routine vegetation maintenance underneath existing transmission lines. Therefore, based on this information and anticipated effects on forest habitat, we have determined that the proposed project will not have a significant adverse effect on overall habitat quality for the Indiana bat, and the project is not likely to adversely affect this species.

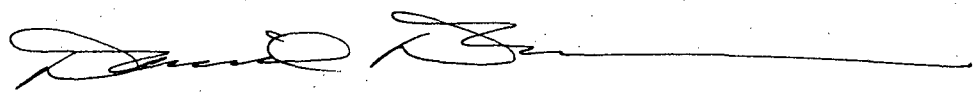
This determination is valid for two years from the date of this letter. If the proposed project has not been fully implemented prior to this, an additional review by this office is recommended. Should project plans change, or if additional information on listed or proposed species becomes available, this determination may be reconsidered.

This response relates only to endangered and threatened species under our jurisdiction, based on an office review of the proposed project's location. No field inspection of the project area has been conducted by this office. Consequently, this letter is not to be construed as addressing other Service concerns under the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act or other authorities.

To avoid potential delays in reviewing your project, please use the above-referenced USFWS project tracking number in any future correspondence regarding this project.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Pam Shellenberger of my staff at 814-234-4090.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Densmore", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David Densmore
Supervisor