February 29, 2008

Mr. Don Klima, Director
Office of Federal Agency Programs
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
Old Post Office Building
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 809
Washington, DC 20004

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE SCOPING PROCESS FOR THE CALVERT CLIFFS NUCLEAR PLANT, UNIT 3 COMBINED LICENSE APPLICATION REVIEW

Dear Mr. Klima:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff is reviewing Part 1 of a partial application submitted by the UniStar Nuclear (UniStar) for a combined license (COL) for construction and operation of one new nuclear power plant at the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant (CCNPP) site in Calvert County, Maryland. As part of the review of this COL partial application, the NRC is preparing an environmental impact statement (EIS) as required by Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 51 (10 CFR Part 51), the NRC regulation that implements the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA). The NRC staff is currently seeking information from consulting parties and other individuals and organizations likely to have knowledge of, or concerns with, historic properties in the area to identify issues relating to the proposed undertaking's potential effects on historic properties. The area of potential effect for this COL review is the area at the CCNPP site and its immediate environs which may be impacted by land-disturbing activities associated with the construction and operation of the new unit.

The CCNPP is an approximately 2,000 acre site located on the west bank of the Chesapeake Bay, approximately 7.5 miles north of Solomons, Maryland. The CCNPP site currently the site of two pressurized water reactors. UniStar plans to construct one new nuclear unit adjacent to the two existing units in a previously disturbed area that was once part of a youth camp. The site of the new unit also includes areas of abandoned or re-forested farmland. The proposed site for Unit 4 is zoned urban/built-up and the proposed switchyard and cooling tower are zoned forest. The applicant has indicated that no additional transmission corridors or off-site land use would be required for transmission lines.

Unistar submitted Part 1 of the partial application for the COL on July 13, 2007, pursuant to NRC requirements of 10 CFR Part 52 and 10 CFR Part 2.101(a)(5). Subsequent supplemental information was submitted on July 16, 2007, August 2, 2007, September 11, 2007, October 30, 2007, and December 14, 2007. The partial application, as supplemented, was accepted for docketing on January 31, 2008, and is available through the web-based version of the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), which can be found at http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html. The partial application and subsequent supplemental information are listed under the ADAMS Accession number ML080380471. The

CCNPP partial COL application and subsequent supplemental information is also available on the internet at http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-licensing/col/calvert-cliffs.html.

In accordance with 36 CFR 800.8(c), the NRC staff is using the process required by NEPA for the preparation of the EIS to comply with the obligations imposed under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, in lieu of the procedures set forth in 36 CFR 800.3 through 800.6. Accordingly, the NRC staff is identifying parties who may wish to consult with the staff on the proposed action and is inviting them to consult with the NRC staff on this matter. Consultation will include participation in the scoping process; identification of historic properties on the CCNPP site; assessment of the effects of the proposed action on any historic properties identified; and development of alternatives and proposed measures that might avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse effects of the proposed action on historic properties. The EIS will include analyses of potential impacts to historic properties that reflect consultation and will document the NRC staff's determination regarding the suitability of the proposed site for the construction and operation of one new nuclear plant. UniStar has also identified three alternative sites that will be evaluated in the EIS. The staff's review will consider alternatives, including an evaluation of the alternative sites. The NRC staff will involve the public in this process in accordance with the NRC procedures in 10CFR Part 51.

Through this letter, the NRC staff is initiating consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA with the Council regarding the UniStar application. To complete consultation under 36 CFR 800.8(c), the NRC staff will forward the draft EIS to consulting parties for review and comment and will address the comments in the final EIS. Your office will receive a copy of the draft EIS along with a request for comments after it is issued. This draft EIS will include identification of historic properties, assessment of impacts, and our preliminary determination. The anticipated publication date for the draft EIS is March 2009.

The NRC plans to hold two public meetings on Wednesday, March 19, 2008, at the Holiday Inn Select, 155 Holiday Dr., Solomons, Maryland. The first meeting will convene at 1:00 p.m. and will continue until 4:00 p.m., as necessary. The second meeting will convene at 7:00 p.m., with a repeat of the overview portions of the first meeting, and will continue until 10:00 p.m., as necessary. The meetings will be preceded by open houses from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m., and 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., during which members of the public may meet and talk with NRC staff members on an informal basis. You and your staff are invited to attend. In addition, during the week of the March 17, the NRC staff plans to conduct a site audit at CCNPP, to discuss the background details of the preparation of the partial application, to perform a walk down of the site and its environs, and to review documentation.

Please submit any written comments your office may have to offer on the scope of the environmental review by April 14, 2008. Comments should be submitted either by mail to the Chief, Rules and Directives Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Mail Stop T-6D59, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001 or by e-mail to CalvertCliffs.COLAEIS@nrc.gov.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Mr. Thomas Fredrichs, Environmental Project Manager for the CCNPP COL application, at (301) 415-5971 or TLF@nrc.gov, or Ms. Laura Quinn at (301) 415-2220 or LMQ1@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Richard Raione, Branch Chief
Environmental Projects Branch 2
Division of Site and Environmental Reviews
Office of New Reactors

Docket No.: 52-016

cc: See next page

site; assessment of the effects of the proposed action on any historic properties identified; and development of alternatives and proposed measures that might avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse effects of the proposed action on historic properties. The

EIS will include analyses of potential impacts to historic properties and will document the NRC staff's determination regarding the suitability of the proposed site for the construction and operation of one new nuclear plant. UniStar has also identified four alternative sites that will be evaluated in the EIS. The staff's review will consider alternatives, including an evaluation of the alternative sites in accordance with 40 CFR 1502.14.

To complete consultation under 36 CFR 800.8(c), the NRC staff will forward the draft EIS to consulting parties for review and comment and will address the comments in the final EIS. Your office will receive a copy of the draft EIS along with a request for comments after it is issued. This draft EIS will include identification of historic properties, assessment of impacts, and our preliminary determination. The anticipated publication date for the draft EIS is March 2009.

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If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Mr. Thomas Friedrichs, Environmental Project Manager for the CCNPP COL Project, at (301) 415-5971 or TLF@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

Richard Raione, Branch Chief
Environmental Projects Branch 2
Division of Site and Environmental Reviews
Office of New Reactors

Docket No.: 52-016
cc: See next page

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ORIGINATOR: **L. Quinn**

SUBJECT: **CALVERT CLIFFS NUCLEAR PLANT, UNIT 3 - PARTIAL COMBINED LICENSE APPLICATION REVIEW**

SECRETARY: **C. Nagel, 415-1126**

DATE: **February 14, 2008**

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