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June 30, 2006

Mississippi Natural Heritage Program
Mississippi Museum of Natural Science
Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks
2148 Riverside Drive
Jackson, MS 39202

Subject: Grand Gulf Nuclear Station
COL Application
Request for Information on Rare, Threatened, and Endangered
Species

Dear Sir or Madam:

We plan to submit an application for a combined license (COL) from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (USNRC) to construct and operate a new nuclear power generation facility at the existing Grand Gulf Nuclear Station (GGNS) site in Claiborne County, Mississippi. GGNS is located on the east bank of the Mississippi River at River Mile 406 near Port Gibson, Mississippi, about 25 miles south of Vicksburg.

Figure 1 (attached) shows the general location of GGNS as well as notable features in the surrounding area. It is reprinted from Figure 1-1 (Region within 80km (50 Miles) of the Proposed Grand Gulf Early Site Permit Site) in USNRC (2006).

In accordance with USNRC's regulations for submitting a COL Application, we are currently preparing an Environmental Report (ER). Among other key issues, the ER will assess the impact of the construction and operation of the nuclear power generation facility on "important species" including those that are state listed (or proposed for listing) as threatened or endangered species or as species of special concern.

Table 2-6 (State-Listed Terrestrial Species Occurring on and in the Vicinity of the Grand Gulf Site) and Table 2-8 (State-Listed Aquatic Species Occurring in

the Vicinity of the Grand Gulf Early Site Permit Site) in USNRC (2006) list state species of concern.

Terrestrial species from Table 2-6 are Florida panther (*Puma concolor coryi*), Louisiana black bear (*Ursus americanus luteolus*), Bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), Wood stork (*Mycteria americana*), Least tern (*Sterna antillarum*), Allegheny monkeyflower (*Mimulus ringens*), American bittersweet (*Celastrus scandens*), Glade fern (*Diplazium pycnocarpon*), Hairy waterclover (*Marsilea vestita*) and Jug orchid (*Platythelys querceticola*).

Aquatic species from Table 2-8 are Pallid sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus albus*), Bayou darter (*Etheostoma rubrum*) and Crystal darter (*Crystallaria asprella*).

Please advise if we should consider any other species under your legal jurisdiction in our analysis. Additionally, please provide us with any information in your possession, not included in Tables 2-6 and 2-8, showing known occurrences of these species in the project area.

Thank you very much for your support and assistance. Please call me at the number below if you have any questions concerning this request.

Sincerely,

William P. Wenstrom, Ph.D.
Wildlife Biologist
719-846-7457

Attachment – Figure 1 General Location Map

Reference

USNRC (U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission). 2006. (Final) Environmental Impact Statement for an Early Site Permit (ESP) at the Grand Gulf ESP Site (NUREG-1817). USNRC, Division of License Renewal, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001, April. Available at www.nrc.gov.

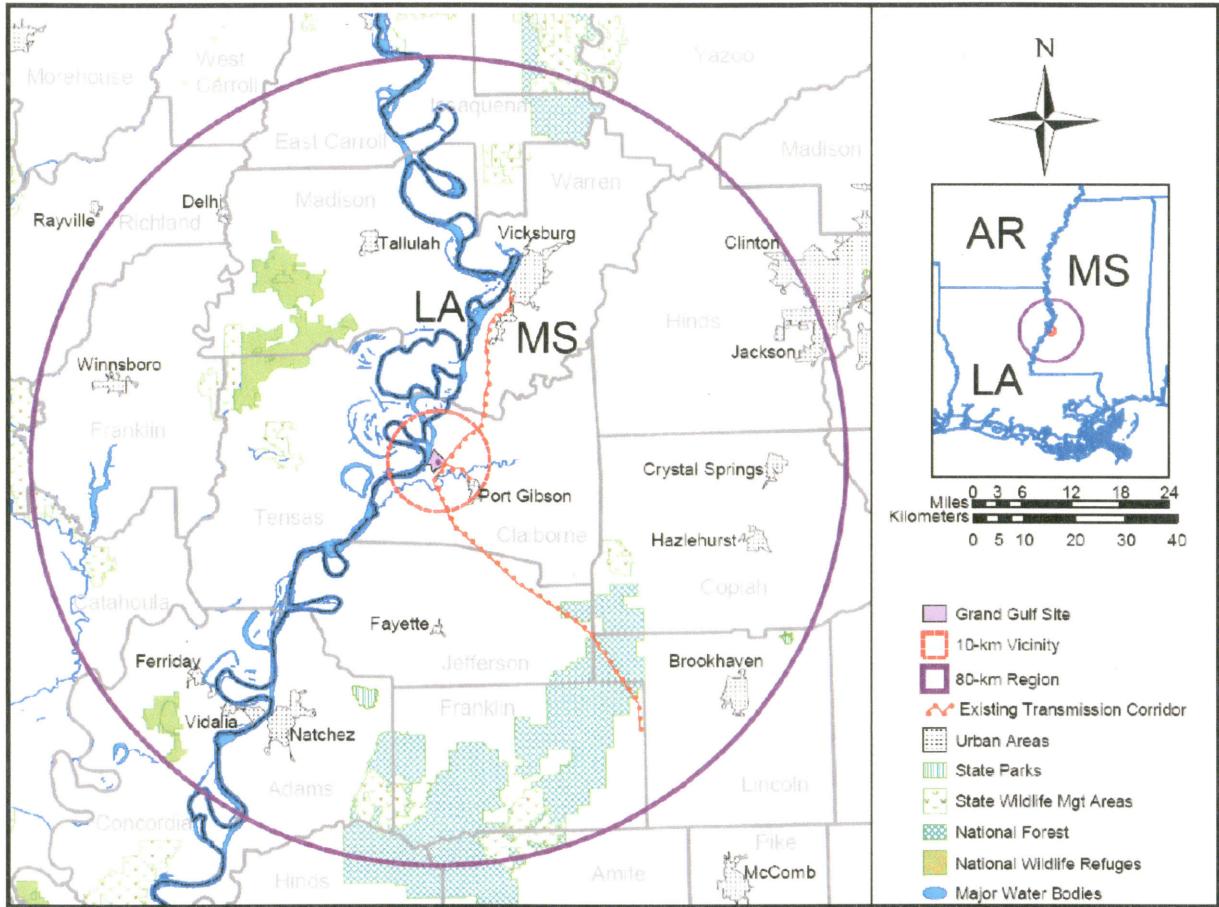


Figure 1 - General Location of the Existing Grand Gulf Nuclear Station, Claiborne County, Mississippi and Notable Features in the Surrounding area (USNRC, 2006).