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June 30, 2006

Ms. Kathy Lunceford  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Mississippi Field Office  
6578 Dogwood View Parkway, Suite A  
Jackson, MS 39213

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

Dear Ms. Lunceford:

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 Federally listed (or proposed for listing) as threatened or endangered species or as species of special concern.

Table 2-7 (Federally Listed Terrestrial Species by County of Occurrence and Distance from the Grand Gulf Site) and Table 2-9 (Federally Listed Aquatic

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

Terrestrial species from Table 2-7 are Florida panther (*Puma concolor coryi*), Louisiana black bear (*Ursus americanus luteolus*), Bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), Red-cockaded woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*), Least tern (*Sterna antillarum*) and American alligator (*Alligator mississippiensis*).

Aquatic species from Table 2-9 are Pallid sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus albus*), Bayou darter (*Etheostoma rubrum*) and Fat pocketbook mussel (*Potamilus capax*).

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 2-7 and 2-9, 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](http://www.nrc.gov).

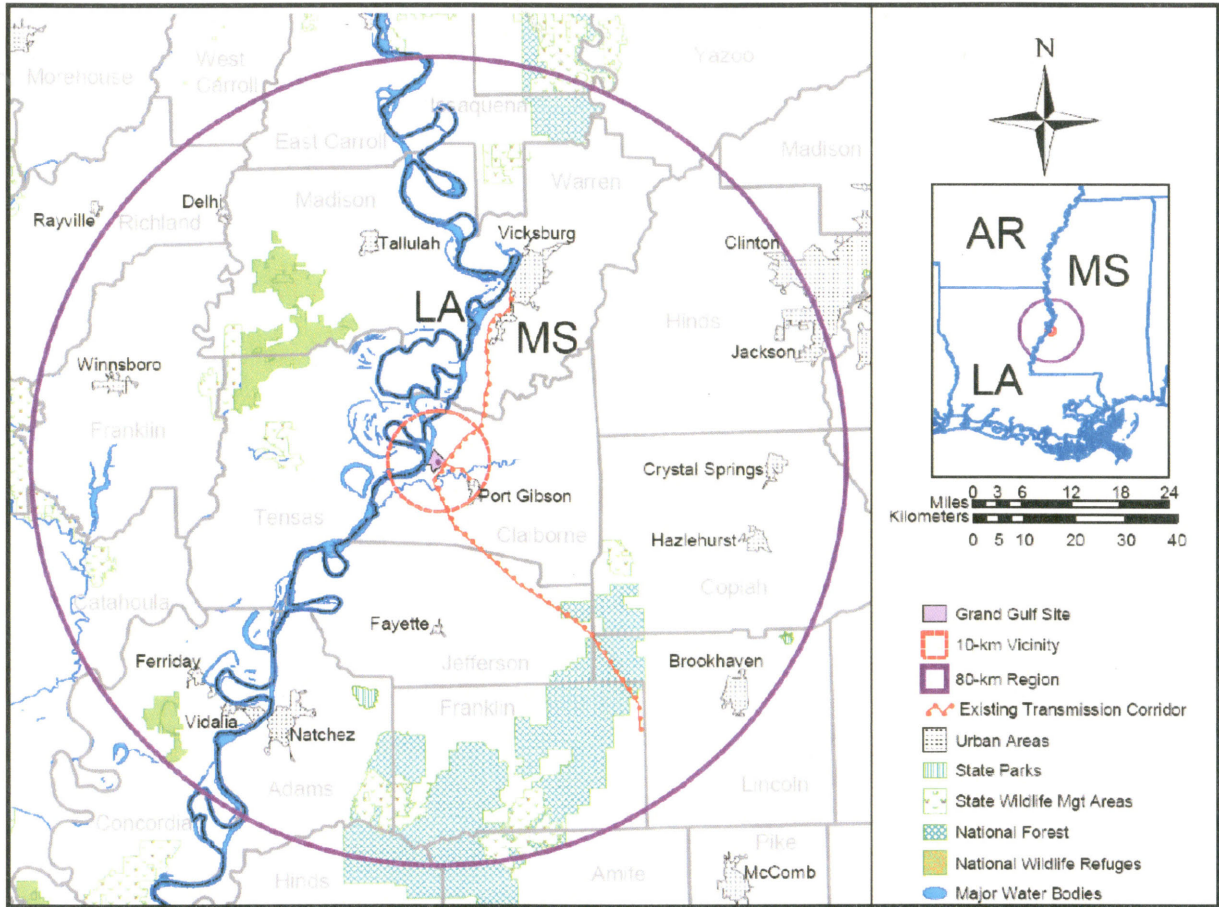


Figure 1 - General Location of the Existing Grand Gulf Nuclear Station, Claiborne County, Mississippi and Notable Features in the Surrounding area (USNRC, 2006).