

February 27, 2009

Mr. and Mrs. Paul and Charlotte Busch
Paradise Ranch Land
Owners Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 2426
Victoria, TX 77902

SUBJECT: INCLUSION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR EXELON NUCLEAR TEXAS HOLDINGS, LLC'S COMBINED LICENSE APPLICATION TO CONSTRUCT AND OPERATE TWO NUCLEAR REACTORS IN VICTORIA COUNTY, TEXAS

Dear: Mr. and Mrs. Busch,

I am responding on behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to your letter dated December 13, 2008. Your letter indicated that you have concerns regarding information contained in the Environmental Report provided to the NRC by Exelon Nuclear Texas Holdings, LLC, as part of Exelon's combined license application to construct and operate two nuclear reactors in Victoria County, Texas. Your letter request "that the NRC require Exelon to re-submit a new permit and/or revised permit application that specifically includes Paradise Ranch", which you indicate is mischaracterized as a "hunting ranch." You further state that Exelon's Environmental Report "deliberately minimized and failed to disclose the true facts about the impacts the Victoria Station will have on Paradise Ranch."

As part of its compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the NRC develops Environmental Impact Statements (EISs) in evaluating applications to construct and operate nuclear reactor facilities. In developing an EIS, the NRC conducts an independent review which gathers and utilizes information from multiple sources, including other Federal agencies, state and local agencies, social services, the public and other local stakeholders. The initial step in development of an EIS is a 60-day scoping period, during which NRC solicits public comments concerning the environmental aspects of the proposed action. Due to Exelon's recent decision to reconsider its selection of the Economic Simplified Boiling Water Reactor as the preferred reactor technology for the Victoria Station site, the NRC has not, as yet, set a schedule for the development of an EIS for the Victoria Station application. Although the Victoria Station EIS scoping period has not yet been scheduled, your letter has been entered into the Publicly Available Records component of the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) under accession number ML090150334. Furthermore, your letter will be included with the written public comments received during the Victoria Station scoping period and as such, your comments will be considered in the development of the Victoria Station EIS. You are welcome to submit additional comments, either written or oral, during the official Victoria Station EIS scoping period.

Please note that one means to monitor the status of the Victoria Station application review is to periodically access the NRC's project website found at <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/newreactors/col/victoria.html>. At this website, you can review information provided at public meetings, the project schedule, and application-related documents.

The NRC appreciates the time and effort that you have taken to provide your comments on the proposed Victoria Station project. NRC staff will be glad to discuss these and any other comments you may have. I can be reached by telephone at 301.415.7612 or via e-mail at Paul.Michalak@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Paul Michalak, Senior Project Manager
Environmental Projects Branch 2
Division of Site and Environmental Reviews
Office of New Reactors

Docket Nos. 52-031
52-032

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Sincerely,

/RA/

Paul Michalak, Senior Project Manager
Environmental Projects Branch 2
Division of Site and Environmental Reviews
Office of New Reactors

Docket Nos. 52-031
52-032

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