



Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Bureau of Forestry

February 12, 2009

Stacey Imboden  
 US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
 Fax: 301-415-5389 (Hard copy will NOT follow)

<i>Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory Review, PNDI Number</i> 019980
Site A - Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant - Salem Twp; Luzerne County
Site B - Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant - Alternate Site: Sandy Bend, PA - Bratton Twp; Mifflin County
Site C - Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant - Alternate Site: Montour PA - Derry Twp; Montour County

Dear Ms. Imboden,

This responds to your request about a Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) ER Tool "Potential Impact" or species of special concern impact review. We screened this project for potential impacts to species and resources of special concern under Department of Conservation and Natural Resources' responsibility, which includes plants, natural communities, terrestrial invertebrates and geologic features only.

Based on our PNDI map review we determined potential impacts to a Proposed PA State-listed species and/or resources of special concern and have suggested a Conservation Measure to minimize the impact of the project on ecological resources. Please review the Conservation Measures listed below that are associated with the three different sites.

\*Site A - Ephemeral/fluctuating Natural Pool Communities with rank of PA vulnerable, provide habitat for many species and are known to be found in the vicinity of this project. If this community type is found onsite, please try to minimize disturbance to it. Also in the vicinity of the project are many Lepidopteron species (moths and butterflies) listed below. These species are utilizing the area east of the plant and may be found elsewhere on site. Please contact our office if you would like more detailed information about these species or ways to improve habitat quality for these species.

Scientific Name	Common Name	State Rank	Adult food sources
<i>Enodia anthedon</i>	Northern Pearly-eye	S3S4 (vulnerable to apparently secure)	willows, poplars and birch
<i>Polites mystic</i>	Long Dash	S3 (vulnerable)	milkweed, mountain laurel, and tick trefoil
<i>Euphydryas phaeton</i>	Baltimore Checkerspot	S2S4 (imperiled to apparently secure)	milkweed, viburnum and wild rose
<i>Poanes massasoit</i>	Mulberry Wing	S3 (vulnerable)	milkweed, purple loosestrife, and blue vervain
<i>Speyeria aphrodite</i>	Aphrodite Fritillary	S3S4 (vulnerable to apparently secure)	milkweed, and viper's bug



\*Site B - Ephemeral/fluctuating Natural Pool Communities with rank of PA vulnerable, provide habitat for many species and are known to be found in the vicinity of this project. If this community type is found onsite, please try to minimize disturbance to it. Please contact our office if you would like more detailed information about this natural community or ways to improve habitat quality for the species that rely on this type of natural community.

\*Site C - *Pinus echinata* (Short-leaf Pine) a species with a rank of PA Tentatively Undetermined, and *Rotala ramosior* (Tooth-cup) a species with a rank of PA Rare are known to be found in the vicinity of this project. These species utilize wooded slopes or ridges with poor nutrient soils and wet sandy shores or other swampy grounds as habitats. If these species, or their habitat type is found onsite, please try to minimize disturbance to it. Please contact our office if you would like more detailed information about this species or ways to improve habitat quality for this species.

Please note, this is for your own information and a survey is not being requested. To return the area to its original vegetation, lay weed-free straw over disturbed areas. Otherwise, refer to [www.ernstseed.com](http://www.ernstseed.com) for a PA company that does sell some "native" seed mixes. For more information on invasive plants, visit [www.dcnr.state.pa.us/forestry/wildplant/index.aspx](http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/forestry/wildplant/index.aspx). Further coordination with this office is not necessary, but suggested, to avoid potential impacts to the above listed resources. This determination is based on a proposed status, which may change when species regulatory statuses are updated.

This response represents the most up-to-date summary of the PNDI data files and is good for one (1) year from the date of this letter. An absence of recorded information does not necessarily imply actual conditions on-site. A field survey of any site may reveal previously unreported populations. Should project plans change or additional information on listed or proposed species become available, this determination may be reconsidered. This determination is based on maps provided. When the project site is selected and location of offsite disturbance is known please let us know.

To complete your review of state and federally-listed species of special concern (those NOT under DCNR's responsibility), please be sure the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the PA Game Commission and the Fish and Boat Commission have been contacted regarding this project either directly or by performing a search with the online PNDI ER Tool found at [www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us](http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us).

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