

PMHarrisCOL PEmails

From: Nancy Kuntzleman
Sent: Wednesday, February 18, 2009 4:13 PM
To: ann.miracle@pnl.gov
Cc: Donald Palmrose; HarrisCOL Resource
Subject: FW: USFWS ESA letter for Harris Nuclear Plant
Attachments: 4449.pdf

From: Mark_Bowers@fws.gov [mailto:Mark_Bowers@fws.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, February 18, 2009 4:01 PM
To: Michelle Moser
Cc: Donald Palmrose; Nancy Kuntzleman
Subject: Re: Harris Nuclear Plant

Concurrence for federally listed species (minus shortnose sturgeon).

Best Regards,
Mark

Hearing Identifier: ShearonHarris_COL_Public
Email Number: 363

Mail Envelope Properties (CEE97CC21430049B821E684512F6E5EB709186FC9)

Subject: FW: USFWS ESA letter for Harris Nuclear Plant
Sent Date: 2/18/2009 4:12:43 PM
Received Date: 2/18/2009 4:12:44 PM
From: Nancy Kuntzleman

Created By: Nancy.Kuntzleman@nrc.gov

Recipients:

"Donald Palmrose" <Donald.Palmrose@nrc.gov>
Tracking Status: None
"HarrisCOL Resource" <HarrisCOL.Resource@nrc.gov>
Tracking Status: None
"ann.miracle@pnl.gov" <ann.miracle@pnl.gov>
Tracking Status: None

Post Office: HQCLSTR01.nrc.gov

Files	Size	Date & Time
MESSAGE	314	2/18/2009 4:12:44 PM
4449.pdf	156861	

Options

Priority: Standard
Return Notification: No
Reply Requested: No
Sensitivity: Normal
Expiration Date:
Recipients Received:



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Raleigh Field Office

Post Office Box 33726

Raleigh, North Carolina 27636-3726

February 18, 2009

Mr. Don Palmrose
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Environmental Projects Branch 1
Division of Site and Environmental Reviews
Office of New Reactors
Washington DC 20555-0001

Re: Informal Section 7 consultation, Shearon Harris Nuclear Plant Expansion

Dear Mr. Palmrose:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has reviewed the Draft Environment Impact Statement (EIS) for Progress Energy Carolina's, (PE), Proposed expansion of the existing Shaeron Harris Nuclear Plant operated by PE. The proposed expansion will be at the existing site in southwestern Wake County, North Carolina. This report is submitted in accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661-667d); the Endangered Species Act 16 U.S.C., as amended); and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, as amended, to be used in your determination of effects and in your public interest review relative to the protection of fish and wildlife resources.

The Service believes that the ecosystem around the existing reservoir is unique in that it remains relatively undeveloped. The ecosystem around Harris Reservoir contains valuable wetlands, and streams, representing components of a larger geographic area which function to protect aquatic resources downstream. An alternative with less environmental impact should be pursued.

In accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, (ESA) and based on the information provided, and other available information, we concur with your determination that the action is not likely to adversely affect federally listed species or their critical habitat as defined by the ESA. We believe that the requirements of section 7 (a)(2) of the ESA have been satisfied for this project. Please remember that obligations under the ESA must be reconsidered if: (1) new information identifies impacts of this action that may affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner not previously considered; (2) this action is modified in a manner that was not considered in this review; or, (3) a new species is listed or critical habitat determined that may be affected by the identified action.

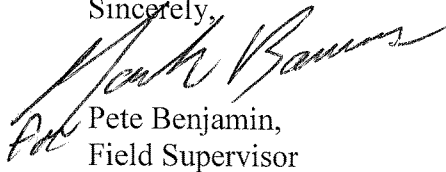
For your future convenience a list of all federally protected endangered and threatened species in North Carolina is now available on our website at <http://www.fws.gov/raleigh>. Our web page contains a complete and updated list of federally protected species, and a list of federal species of concern known to occur in each county in North Carolina. Therefore, if you have projects that occur within the Raleigh Field Office's area of responsibility (see attached county list), you no longer need to contact the Raleigh Field Office for a list of federally-protected species.

Section 7 of the Act requires that all federal agencies (or their designated non-federal representative), in consultation with the Service, insure that any action federally authorized, funded, or carried out by such agencies is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any federally-listed endangered or threatened species. A biological assessment or evaluation may be prepared to fulfill that requirement and in determining whether additional consultation with the Service is necessary. In addition to the federally-protected species list, information on the species' life histories and habitats and information on completing a biological assessment or evaluation can be found on our web page at <http://www.fws.gov/nc-es/es/es.html>. Please check the web site often for updated information or changes.

If your project contains suitable habitat for any of the federally-listed species known to be present within the county where your project occurs, the proposed action has the potential to adversely affect those species. As such, we recommend that surveys be conducted to determine the species' presence or absence within the project area. The use of North Carolina Natural Heritage program data should not be substituted for actual field surveys.

The Service appreciates the opportunity to review and provide comments on the proposed action. Should you have any questions regarding the project, please contact Mr. Mark Bowers at (919) 856-4520, extension 19.

Sincerely,


Pete Benjamin,
Field Supervisor

cc: NMFS, Beaufort, NC
EPA, Atlanta, GA
WRC, Raleigh, NC