Application NAB-2007-08123-M05
Response to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Information Request Dated 01/16/09
Calvert Cliffs 3 Project, LLC and UniStar Nuclear Operating Services, LLC
February 12, 2009

Question 4

Quantify the total area of Phragmites south of the barge slip area and justify the need for impact which is due to the reconstruction of the barge slip. Why is this impact needed? Clarify whether there will be any disturbance south of the LOD for the barge slip reconstruction, and whether the tiger beetle habitat will be impacted.

RESPONSE

The total area of Phragmites south of the barge slip area comprises approximately 9,768 square-feet (0.22 acre) within the area of accumulated sediment. The Phragmites will be removed during the removal of the accumulated sediment mound below the existing culvert as part of the barge slip restoration. The removal of the sediment and Phragmites is necessary to provide for drive-off of large components from barges onto the proposed concrete apron and pull-off apron. The ability to drive-off large components greater reduces safety hazards related to removing large components from barges with cranes. The removal of this sediment is maintenance dredging and will not result in disturbance south of the barge slip restoration.

The Co-Applicants retained Dr. Barry Knisley of Randolph Macon University, who is an expert in tiger beetles with site specific experience including preparation of the report titled "Current Status of Two Federally Threatened Tiger Beetles at Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, 2006," October 26, 2006, and a supplement to that report, "A Summary of the Current Status of Two Federally Listed Tiger Beetles at Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant," August 29, 2008 (See *Attachment 1*). His review confirmed that the proposed Project activities within the Intensely Developed Area 500 foot buffer area (development of a heavy haul road down to the barge dock and construction activities associated with the barge slip that would also extend south of the intensely developed area by no more than 100 feet) portion of the will not have any impact on the tiger beetles or their habitat. Dr. Knisley also confirmed that the bluff top activities in the vicinity of Camp Conoy, including the demolition of the Eagles Den building and the proposed forest mitigation plantings would not impact the beetles or their habitat. Impacts from activities in the Eagle's Den area would only be expected if the activities impact cliff face. The Co-Applicants will manage activities in the Eagle's Den area by undertaking a geotechnical evaluation of the stability of the area in order to determine appropriate construction loads and methods of construction to complete the proposed work in a safe manner that would avoid and/or minimize impacts to the tiger beetle. A figure depicting Tiger Beetle habitat areas and buffer locations is provided as *Attachment 2*.