October 26, 2009

Mr. Paul Swartz
Executive Director
Susquehanna River Basin Commission
1721 N. Front Street
Harrisburg, PA 17102

SUBJECT: INFORMATION REQUEST REGARDING THE COMBINED LICENSE APPLICATION FOR CALVERT CLIFFS NUCLEAR POWER PLANT UNIT 3

Dear Mr. Swartz:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff is currently reviewing an application submitted by Calvert Cliffs 3 Nuclear Project, LLC and UniStar Nuclear Operating Services, LLC (collectively referred to as UniStar) for a combined license (COL) to construct and operate one new nuclear power plant at the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant (CCNPP) site near Lusby, Maryland. UniStar has recently submitted revised information that contains new alternative sites. As part of the review of the COL application, the NRC is preparing an environmental impact statement (EIS) as required by Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 51 (10 CFR Part 51), the NRC's regulations that implement the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA). The EIS will include an analysis of pertinent environmental issues, including endangered or threatened species and impacts to fish and wildlife at the proposed and alternative sites. The NRC staff is requesting that you provide any information the NRC should consider in its review of the new alternative sites.

The NRC staff will evaluate the environmental impacts of construction and operation of the proposed nuclear unit and will also consider alternatives to the proposed action, including an evaluation of the new alternative sites. Please provide any information that the NRC should consider in its analysis of the new alternative sites. Please submit your comments as soon as possible, but no later than November 16, 2009, to Ms. Laura Quinn, Environmental Project Manager, Office of New Reactors, Mail Stop T7-E30, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

The CCNPP site is located in Calvert County, Maryland, on approximately 2,000 acres on the west bank of the Chesapeake Bay, approximately halfway between the mouth of the bay and its headwaters at the Susquehanna River. The site is approximately 40 miles southeast of Washington, DC, and 7.5 miles north of Solomons, Maryland.

The CCNPP site currently has two operating pressurized water reactors that have a combined capacity to generate 1,700 megawatts of electricity. UniStar plans to construct one new nuclear unit adjacent to the two existing units. The proposed unit will be U.S. Evolutionary Power Reactor (EPR) with a generating capacity of approximately 1,600 megawatts of electricity

UniStar has identified three new alternative sites that will be evaluated in the EIS. These sites include the former Bainbridge naval training facility, the Thiokol site, and the Eastalco site. The Bainbridge site is located in Port Deposit in Cecil County, Maryland, and would use the Susquehanna River as its water source. The Thiokol site is located near Mechanicsville in St. Mary's County, Maryland, and would use the Patuxent River as its water source. And finally the Eastalco site is located five miles south of Frederick, Maryland, in Frederick County and would use the Potomac River as its water source. Enclosed is a figure depicting the locations of each alternative site.

The cooling system for the proposed Calvert Cliffs plant consists of a mechanical draft wet cooling tower. Approximately 43,480 million gallons per day (mgd) would be taken from Chesapeake Bay to make up losses from evaporation, blowdown, drift, and desalinization. For the alternative sites approximately 50 mgd of water would be removed from the respective water source, the consumptive water use would be approximately 27mgd, and the remaining 23 mgd would be returned to the water source.

The current version, revision 5, of the application for the COL is available through the web-based version of the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System, which can be found at http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html. Revision 5 of the Environmental Report (ER) section of the application is listed under accession number ML092330294. The revised alternative sites and related information was submitted after revision 5 and can be located under accession number ML092450557. Revision 5 of the CCNPP COL application and new alternative site submittal are also available on the Internet at http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactors/col/calvert-cliffs/documents.html.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact the Environmental Project Managers for the CCNPP COL project, Ms. Laura Quinn at 301-415-2220 or Laura.Quinn@nrc.gov, or Alicia Williamson at 301-415-1878 or Alicia.Williamson@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

Robert G. Schaaf, Chief***/RA/***
Environmental Projects Branch 3
Division of Site and Environmental Reviews
Office of New Reactors

Docket No: 52-016

Enclosure: As stated

cc: See next page

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DATE	09/ 16 /2009	09/ 17 /2009	09/15 /2009	10/ 5 /2009	10/ 26 /2009

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Letter to Paul Swartz from Robert G. Schaaf dated October 26, 2009

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