



**Bryan J. Dolan**  
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September 23, 2009

Document Control Desk  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

**Subject:** Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC  
William States Lee III Nuclear Station - Docket Nos. 52-018 and 52-019  
AP1000 Combined License Application for the  
William States Lee III Nuclear Station Units 1 and 2  
Response to Request for Additional Information  
Ltr# WLG2009.09-08

**Reference:** Letter from J.M. Muir (NRC) to B.J. Dolan (Duke Energy), *Request for Additional Information Regarding the Environmental Review of the Combined License Application for William States Lee III Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2*, dated August 21, 2008

Letter from B.J. Dolan to Document Control Desk, Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, William States Lee III Nuclear Station - Docket Nos. 52-018 and 52-019 AP1000 *Combined License Application for the William States Lee III Nuclear Station Units 1 and 2, Response to Request for Additional Information*, Ltr# WLG2008.11-14, dated November 12, 2008

This letter provides supplemental information to the Duke Energy response to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) request for additional information (RAI) included in the referenced letter:

RAI 90, Ecology

The response to this NRC request is addressed in the enclosure which also identifies any associated changes that will be made in a future revision of the William States Lee III Nuclear Station application.

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If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact Peter S. Hastings, Nuclear Plant Development Licensing Manager, at 980-373-7820.



Bryan J. Dolan  
Vice President  
Nuclear Plant Development

Enclosure:

- 1) Supplemental Response to RAI 90, Ecology

AFFIDAVIT OF BRYAN J. DOLAN

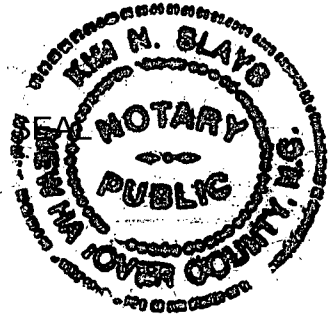
Bryan J. Dolan, being duly sworn, states that he is Vice President, Nuclear Plant Development, Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, that he is authorized on the part of said Company to sign and file with the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission this supplement to the combined license application for the William States Lee III Nuclear Station and that all the matter and facts set forth herein are true and correct to the best of his knowledge.

*Bryan J. Dolan*  
Bryan J. Dolan

Subscribed and sworn to me on *September 23, 2009*

*Kim N. Slays*  
Notary Public

My commission expires: *April 19, 2010*



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xc (w/o enclosure):

Loren Plisco, Deputy Regional Administrator, Region II  
Stephanie Coffin, Branch Chief, DNRL  
Robert Schaaf, Branch Chief, DSER

xc (w/ enclosure):

Michelle Moser, Project Manager, DSER  
Brian Hughes, Senior Project Manager, DNRL

**Lee Nuclear Station Response to Request for Additional Information (RAI)**

**RAI Letter Dated:** August 21, 2008

**Reference NRC RAI Number:** ER RAI-90 Supplement

**NRC RAI:**

Once available, provide the results of the ecological surveys associated with the transmission line corridors, including habitat types traversed, locations of Federal- and State-listed species, and characterization of water bodies, wetlands and floodplains that will be crossed.

**Duke Energy Response:**

The ecological survey report for the 230 kV and 525 kV transmission lines is attached.

**Associated Revisions to the Lee Nuclear Station Combined License Application:**

No COLA revisions have been identified with this response.

**Associated Attachments:**

Attachment 90S-1 Letter from T.N. Hall (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service) to T. Bowling, Endangered Species Survey, W.S. Lee III Nuclear Station Transmission Line, Cherokee County, August 26, 2009

Attachment 90S-2 HDR/DTA, 2009, *230 kV and 525 kV Transmission Line Ecological Survey Report*

Enclosure No. 1  
Duke Letter Dated: September 23, 2009

**Attachment 90S-1**

**Letter from T.N. Hall (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service) to T. Bowling, Endangered Species Survey,  
W.S. Lee III Nuclear Station Transmission Line, Cherokee County, August 26, 2009**



# United States Department of the Interior

## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

176 Croghan Spur Road, Suite 200  
Charleston, South Carolina 29407



August 26, 2009

Mr. Theodore Bowling  
Environmental Project Manager  
Nuclear Plant Development  
Duke Energy  
EC09D/P.O. Box 1006  
Charlotte, NC 28201-1006

Re: Endangered Species Survey, W. S. Lee, III, Nuclear Station Transmission Line,  
Cherokee County, SC, FWS Log No. 42410-2009-TA-0596

Dear Mr. Bowling:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has reviewed your survey results on potential impacts to threatened and endangered species (T&E) by the proposed transmission lines which will distribute power generated from the W. S. Lee, III, Nuclear Station in Cherokee County, SC. Two routes were surveyed for the presence of threatened and endangered species in addition to jurisdictional wetland areas.

As described in the submitted survey report; a new 525 kV line would extend from the Oconee-Newport 525 kV line to the Lee Nuclear Station switchyard (Switchyard) and a new 230 kV line would extend from the Pacolet Tie-Catawba 230 kV line to the Switchyard. The west 525 kV line would extend 17.42 miles to the Switchyard. The west 230 kV line would run parallel to the 525 kV line for 7.95 miles to the Switchyard. The east 525 kV line would extend 13.87 miles to the Switchyard. The east 230 kV line would run parallel to the 525 kV line for 7.09 miles to the Switchyard. The 525 kV line right of way (ROW) from the Oconee-Newport line to the Pacolet Tie-Catawba line would be 200 feet wide in both routes. The ROW from the Pacolet Tie-Catawba line to the Switchyard, where the lines parallel each other in a single corridor, would be 325 feet wide in both routes.

Habitat from four South Carolina counties, Cherokee, York, Union and Chester, will potentially be impacted through placement of the transmission lines. Therefore, Duke Energy surveyed for the federally threatened and endangered species known to occur in these counties, the dwarf flowered heartleaf, *Hexastylis naniflora*, the Schweinitz's sunflower, *Helianthus schweinitzii* and the Carolina heelsplitter, *Lasmigona decorata*. In addition, a number of state protected species were included in the survey efforts.

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The survey found no occurrence of the dwarf flowered heartleaf or the Schweinitz's sunflower within the proposed transmission line corridors. Further, the Carolina heelsplitter was not found within streams that will be crossed by the lines. Based on these results Duke Energy concludes that the proposed construction of the transmission lines would have no effect upon federally listed species.

Upon view of the information provided, the Service agrees that construction of the new 230kV and 525kV transmission lines will have no effect upon federally listed species. However, obligations under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act must be considered if (1) new information reveals impacts of this identified action that may affect any listed species or critical habitat in a manner not previously considered, (2) this action is subsequently modified in a manner which was not considered in this assessment, or (3) a new species is listed or critical habitat is designated that may be affected by the identified action.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide you with this information regarding this project. If you have any questions regarding the Service's comments, please do not hesitate to contact Mark Caldwell at (843) 727-4707 ext. 215.

Sincerely,



*for*

Timothy N. Hall  
Field Supervisor

TNH/MAC/km



Enclosure No. 1  
Duke Letter Dated: September 23, 2009

**Attachment 90S-2**

***HDR/DTA, 2009, 230 kV and 525 kV Transmission Line Ecological Survey Report***