



December 28, 2009  
NND-09-0346

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Regulatory Division  
69-A Hagood Avenue  
Charleston, S.C. 29403

ATTN: Richard L. Darden, Ph.D.

Subject: Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station (VCSNS) Units 2 and 3 Combined License Application (COLA) - Docket Numbers 52-027 and 52-028 Supplemental Response to NRC Environmental Report (ER) Request for Additional Information (RAI) USACE-3.

- Reference:
1. Letter from Ronald B. Clary to Document Control Desk, Submittal of Revision 1 to Part 3 (Environmental Report) of the Combined License Application for the V. C. Summer Nuclear Station Units 2 and 3, dated February 13, 2009.2.
  2. Letter from Patricia J. Vokoun to Ronald B. Clary, Requests for Additional Information Related to the Environmental Review for the Combined License Application for the V. C. Summer Nuclear Station, Units 2 and 3, dated June 22, 2009.
  3. Letter from Ronald B. Clary (SCE&G) to Document Control Desk (NRC), Response to NRC Environmental Report (ER) Requests for Additional Information (RAI): USACE- 2, 3, 4, and 5 dated August 6, 2009.

The enclosure to this letter provides supplemental information to the "Supplement to the Santee Cooper Transmission Line Siting Study Discussion of Alternative Sites" provided in response to RAI USACE-3 included in the above referenced letter (Reference 2).

Should you have any questions, please contact Mr. Al Paglia by telephone at (803) 345-4191, or by email at [apaglia@scana.com](mailto:apaglia@scana.com).

D083  
NRD

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on this 28<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2009.

Sincerely,



Ronald B. Clary  
Vice President  
New Nuclear Deployment

JIG/RBC/jig

c (with Enclosures):

Patricia Vokoun  
Carl Berkowitz  
David Haddon  
USNRC Document Control Desk  
FileNet

c (without Enclosures):

Luis A. Reyes  
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**VCSNS UNITS 2 and 3  
Environmental Report Review  
Response to NRC Requests for Additional Information**

**NRC RAI Letter Dated June 22, 2009**

**NRC RAI Number:** RAI USACE-3 **Revision:** 1

**Reference ER Information Needs Item:** N/A

**Question Summary (RAI):**

Provide a comparative discussion regarding impacts to wetlands and other waters of the U.S. from the various transmission lines which will be part of this project. The Corps recognizes that detailed assessments, characterizations and/or delineations are not feasible. However, use of a combination of available mapping resources should provide estimates of wetland area and stream length to be encountered within the corridors.

The Corps recognizes that SCE&G and Santee Cooper will construct independent transmission which will route power to their respective service areas. Information for these separate lines should probably be presented separately.

**Full Text (supporting information):**

Required for determination whether potential project alternatives would be in compliance with the 404(b)(1) Guidelines and for identification of the Least Environmentally Damaging Project Alternative.

**VCSNS Supplemental Response:**

At the request of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), in order to assist in the evaluation of alternative nuclear power plant sites associated with the proposed V.C. Summer Nuclear Station (VCSNS) expansion, the information presented in the table below reflects updated estimates of wetlands located within areas of "new right-of-way (ROW)" along the transmission corridors associated with each of the proposed alternatives. The five nuclear plant sites and their associated transmission corridors were presented in the *Supplement to Santee Cooper Transmission Line Siting Study Discussion of Alternative Sites* dated August 5, 2009 (previously submitted in reference 3 of the cover letter). That Supplement was completed prior to routing changes to the Flat Creek and Varnville transmission corridors presented in Revision 1 of the Transmission Line Siting Study. Routing changes along these corridors impacted the amount of new ROW required for several of the alternative sites. The estimates presented in the table below are based on the most current information readily available and replace information provided in reference 3 of the cover letter.

Although wetland areas occur along existing ROW segments of the transmission corridors, limited impacts to these wetlands are expected as they will remain in their current condition. However, new ROW segments will require clearing of existing woody vegetation, including forested wetlands, in these areas. Great precautions will be taken to preserve the natural flow of the surface water (no clear-cutting, grubbing, filling, etc.) within these new ROW segments (Part A2 "Clearing Specifications"; App. B of the 2008 Siting Study).

Estimated Forested Wetland Impacts for Santee Cooper Transmission Line Alternatives

	VCSNS	Fa-1	Saluda	Cope	SRS
Length of Combined Corridors (miles)	239	242	325	106	138
Length of New ROW (miles) <sup>1</sup>	39	53	137	106	138
Total Wetlands within New ROW based on NWI (acres) <sup>2</sup>	21	22	18	138	97
<b>Forested Wetlands within New ROW based on NWI (acres)<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>77</b>

USFWS National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) 2008

1. New ROW includes proposed cross-country ROW and ROW adjacent and parallel to existing ROW.
2. Total wetlands include NWI classifications associated with open-water, as well as "Emergent Wetland" and "Forested/Shrub Wetland".
3. Forested wetlands only include the "Forested/Shrub Wetland" NWI classification.

**Associated COLA Revisions:**

No COLA revision is required as a result of the response to this RAI.

**Associated Attachments:**

None