

March 2, 2010

MEMORANDUM TO: Robert G. Schaaf, Chief
Environmental Projects Branch 3
Division of Site and Environmental Reviews
Office of New Reactors

FROM: Laura M. Quinn, Project Manager */RA/*
Environmental Projects Branch 2
Division of Site and Environmental Reviews
Office of New Reactors

SUBJECT: TRIP REPORT: SITE VISIT TO CALVERT CLIFFS REGARDING THE
PHASE I STREAM AND WETLAND MITIGATION PLAN AND THE
PURITAN TIGER BEETLE HABITAT AREAS

Enclosure 1 provides a summary of a site visit held on April 7, 2009, that was requested by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) at the Calvert Cliffs site, near Lusby, MD to assess the Phase I Mitigation Plan activities that would be conducted near the Puritan tiger beetle habitat on site. The mitigation plan is required by the State of Maryland and the Corps for issuance of any permits for the new unit. Enclosure 2 contains an agenda from the site visit. Enclosure 3 contains the attendance sheet for the site visit.

Docket No.: 52-016

Enclosures:
As stated

cc w/ enclosures: See next page

CONTACT: Laura M. Quinn, NRO/DSER/RAP2
(301) 415-2220

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CONTACT: Laura M. Quinn, NRO/DSER/RAP2
(301) 415-2220

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MParkhurst, PNNL (maryann.parkhurst@pnl.gov)
EChapman, PNNL (elaine.chapman@pnl.gov)
CDuberstein, PNNL (corey.duberstein@pnl.gov)

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NAME	LQuinn	ARedden	HNash	SVrahoretis	RSchaaf
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Calvert Cliffs Combined License Site Visit Regarding the Phase I Mitigation Plan Activities and the Puritan Tiger Beetle Habitat

Overview

In February 2009 the Phase I Mitigation Plan was submitted to the State of Maryland and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) by Calvert Cliffs 3 Nuclear Project, LLC and UniStar Nuclear Operating Services, LLC (collectively referred to as UniStar). A site visit was requested, by the Corps, to clarify the proximity of planned mitigation activities to the Puritan tiger beetle habitat and to examine if any of these activities had the potential to disturb that habitat. Because activities could affect the habitat, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and Corps staff sought an understanding of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (FWS) opinion. The site visit was held at the Calvert Cliffs site on April 7, 2009.

Attendees

NRC

Laura Quinn, Project Manager
Phil Brandt, Co-Project Manager
Harriet Nash, Ecologist

Corps

Kathy Anderson, Project Manager
Erica Anuszweski

Maryland Department of the Environment

Cheryl Kerr
Lisa Dosmann

UniStar

Jim Burkman
Ed Miller

Constellation

Yvonne Abernethy

Fish and Wildlife Service

Bob Zepp
Andy Moser

Maryland Department of Natural Resources

Niles Primrose
Susan Gray

Other

Dr. Barry Knisley
M. Hunter
M. Wysorki

Site Visit Observations

During the site visit, participants conducted a site walk of the barge dock area, Camp Conoy area, and the stream restoration areas downstream and east from Camp Conoy.

Adult tiger beetles have been observed on the beach at the barge dock area and on the beach near the site of the proposed stream mitigation area east of former Camp Conoy. Additionally, larvae likely inhabit the cliffs near the same proposed stream mitigation area. Adult tiger beetles sometimes move toward the barge area away from the beach area. The planned mitigation near the barge is outside of the buffer zone, but because adults have been observed in the area, FWS would recommend a time-of-year restriction for work to occur in this area.

The proposed stream mitigation area east of Camp Conoy includes cliffs where larvae reside. The larval stage of the tiger beetle lasts two years. Currently the area along the cliff has an eroding cut that extends landward from the cliff approximately 15 feet. The Phase I Mitigation Plan proposes activities to stabilize the stream cut at the cliff. FWS expressed concerns about the work that is proposed in this area because of its proximity to current habitat. FWS would recommend that a time-of-year restriction be implemented so that work in this area would not occur during larval hatchings, adult forging, and reproduction timeframes. FWS also recommended a 100-foot restriction for beach work centered on the mid-line of the existing stream at the landward interface with the beach. UniStar agreed to FWS recommendations on the time-of-year and spatial restrictions and committed to sending a letter to the NRC and the Corps communicating the commitment. New maps would be developed highlighting the areas where no work would occur during the time-of-year restriction and would be included in the Phase II Mitigation Plan. FWS also expressed the need to evaluate the plant species that were being considered for planting along the stream area near the cliff. Plant species that would not spread into areas on or near the cliff would be ideal to ensure the sandy, loose soils that the tiger beetle needs to lay eggs would not be affected by the mitigation plan. The phase II Mitigation Plan was submitted by UniStar to the Maryland Department of the Environment on December 8, 2009, and is currently under review.

The staff then conducted a walkdown of the stream restoration areas upstream of the cliff area. This area included a network of streams and ponds in a woodland wetland area upstream of the Camp Conoy area. Tiger beetle habitat is not located in this area upstream.

Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant (Environmental)

cc:

Mr. Harold Sharlin
3401 38th Street NW, #318
Washington, DC 20016

Mr. David Zonderman
252 Driftwood
Solomons, MD 20688

Mr. Mark Coles, Business Legislative Rep.
Building and Construction Trades Council
5829 Allentown Road
Camp Springs, MD 20746

Ms. Jacqui Steele-McCall
GS Proctor
9912 Sudan Place
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

Mr. David Murphy
UniStar Nuclear Energy
750 Pratt Street, 14th Floor
Baltimore, MD 21202

Mr. Joe Mihalcik
UniStar Nuclear Energy
2264 Birch Road
Port Republic, MD 20676

Mr. Bud Hanbury
I.U.O.E.
4546 Britannia Way
Suitland, MD 20746

Mr. David Turner
Constellation
24672 Apple Sauce Lane
Hollywood, MD 20636

Mr. Richard Lloyd, Attorney
135 W Dares Beach Road, Suite 209A
Prince Fredrick, MD 20678

Mr. Bill Burch
MACTEC
560 Herndon Parkway, Suite 200
Herndon, VA 20170

Mr. Ed Sabo
MACTEC Federal Programs
560 Herndon Parkway, Suite 200
Herndon VA, 20170

Mr. Donald Brown
United Association
26205 Yowaiski Mill Road
Mechanicsville, MD 20659

Mr. Mike Dorsey
BCTD
1601 16th Street NW
Washington, DC 20006

Mr. Norman Meadow
MD Conservation Council
2304 South Road
Baltimore, MD 21209

Ms. Delores Caniglia
13400 Lore Pines Lane
Solomons, MD 20688

Mr. Charles E. MacDonald
P.O. Box 38
Chesapeake Beach, MD 20732

Ms. Amy Corder
Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant
1955 Parkers Creek Spur
Port Republic, MD 20676

Mr. Danny Adams
MD Department of the Environment
1800 Washington Blvd.
Baltimore, MD 21250

Mr. Jay Gaines
12947 Huron Drive
Lusby, MD 20657

Mr. Juan Carlos Recinos
Local Union 201
1507 Rhode Island Avenue NE
Washington, DC 20018

Mr. Bob Migliaccio
Iron Workers Local 201
1507 Rhode Island Avenue NE
Washington, DC 20008

Ms. Dawn Tuckor
Calvert County Minority Business Alliance
4140 Holbrook Road
Huntington, MD 20639

Mr. Brad Kanbowsky
P.O. Box 1276
Huntington, PA 20637

Mr. Timothy Butler
12407 Red Rock Trial
Lusby, MD 20657

Mr. Milo Chaffee
Sheet Metal Workers Local 100
4725 Silver Hill Road
Suitland, MD 20746

Mr. Keith Crissman
Constellation
23380 Tara Lane
Hollywood, MD 20636

Mr. Frank Fox
Sierra Club
27290 Woodburn Hill Road
Mechanicsville, MD 20659

Mr. Michael Griffin
MD Department of the Environment
1800 Washington Blvd.
Baltimore, MD 21230

Mr. Tyrone Washington
Iron Workers Local 201
3917 29th Street Apt 214
Washington, DC 20008

Mr. Ryan Leonard
Iron Workers Local 201
4665 Port Tobacco Road
Nanjemoy, MD 20662

Ms. Felicia Alexander
Maryland State Highway Administration
707 North Calvert Street, Mail Stop C-301
Baltimore, MD 21202

Lee and April Minin
P.O. Box 998
Solomons, MD 20688

Mr. John Rayner
Iron Workers Local Union No 5
9100 Old Marlboro Pike
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-3627

Mr. Michael Lukey
MACTEC
560 Herndon Parkway, Suite 200
Herndon, MD 20170

Mr. Phillip Benavides
North American Young
Generation in Nuclear
3591 Saint Leonard Road
Port Republic, MD 20676

Mr. Robert Tufts
Maryland Green Party
1308 Fairfax Avenue
Churchton, MD 20733

Mr. Mic Gribben
Tetra Tech Inc.
20251 Century Blvd.
Germantown, MD 20874

Mr. Bill Scarafia
St. Mary's County Chamber of Commerce
44220 Airport Road
California, MD 20619

Ms. Kathy Anderson
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Baltimore District
P.O. Box 1715
Baltimore, MD 21209-1715

Ms. Dantia Boonchaisri
Calvert County Dept. of Economic Development
Courthouse, 175 Main Street
Prince Fredrick, MD 20678

Mr. Kenneth Moore
8258 Cooperleaf Court
Owens, MD 20736-3615

Ms. Theresa Hunter
42566 Anne Court
Hollywood, MD 20636

Ms. Deborah McClure
Chamber of Commerce
1165 Beacon Way
Lusby, MD 20657

Alan Summerville
ICF International
9300 Lee Highway
Fairfax, VA 22031-1207

Mr. Michael Pritchard
Iron Workers Local Union No 5
24380 Mervell Dean Road Apt B
Hollywood, MD 20636

Mr. Joseph Green
29 Francis Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Mr. Bob Nelson, Health Physicist
Maryland Dept. of the Environment
1800 Washington Blvd.
Baltimore, MD 21230

Ms. Brenda MacNair
11010 Mill Brdge Road
Lusby, MD 20657

Mr. James Sinclair
2120 Tamarac Trail
Lusby, MD 20657

Mr. Nick Garrett
Calvert Tourism Commission
378 Cambridge Place
Prince Fredrick, MD 20678

Dr. Gwen DeBois
Physicians for Social Responsibility
1817 Sulgnwe Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21209

Mr. Randy Holter
P.O. Box 76
Newburg, MD 20664

Professor Paul Friesema
Environmental Policy and Culture Program
304 Scott Hall
601 University Place
Northwestern University
Evanston, IL 60208-1006

Vance T. Ayres
Executive Secretary Treasurer
Washington DC Building Trades Council
5829 Allentown Rd.
Camp Springs, Md. 20746

Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant (Environmental)

cc:

Kathy.Anderson@usace.army.mil (Kathy Anderson)
Phillip.Benavides@comcast.net (Phillip Benavides)
Trondelle2002@yahoo.com (Trondelle Brooks)
Whbiv@nc.rr.com (William Buchanan)
Kcrissman@md.metrocast.net (Brenice Crissman)
Afisher@citizen.org (Allison Fisher)
Paul@beyondnuclear.org (Paul Gunter)
Kevin@beyondnuclear.org (Kevin Kamps)
NorrisMcDonald@msn.com (Norris McDonald)
Smcgarvey@bctd.org (Sean McGarvey)
Meadownd@jhu.edu (Norm Meadow)
Csavoy@smwlocal100.com (Clifton Savoy)
Dimitri.Lutchenkov@unistarnuclear.com (Dimitri Lutchenkov)
pfree@northwestern.edu (Paul Friesema)

COL - Calvert Cliffs Mailing List

(Revised 11/12/2008)

cc:

Mr. Richard L. Baker
Bechtel Power Corporation
5275 Westview Drive
Frederick, MD 21703-8306

Mr. Brian Hastings
Public Utility Commission
William B. Travis Building
P.O. Box 13326
1701 Noth Congress Avenue
Austin, TX 78701-3326

Ms. Patricia T. Birnie, Esquire
Co-Director
Maryland Safe Energy Coalition
P. O. Box 33111
Baltimore, MD 21218

Mr. Roy Hickok
NRC Technical Training Center
5700 Brainerd Road
Chattanooga, TN 37411-4017

Ms. Michele Boyd
Legislative Director
Energy Program
Public Citizens Critical Mass Energy
and Environmental Program
215 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20003

Mr. Norris McDonald
President
AAEA
9903 Caltor Lane
Ft. Washington, MD 20744

Ms. Kristen A. Burger
Maryland People's Counsel
6 St. Paul Centre
Suite 2102580 Taylor Avenue (B wing, 3rd floor)
Baltimore, MD 21202-1631

Mr. R. I. McLean
Nuclear Programs
Power Plant Research Program
Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Tawes State Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Mr. Carey Fleming, Esquire
Senior Counsel - Nuclear Generation
Constellation Generation Group, LLC
750 East Pratt Street, 17th Floor
Baltimore, MD 21202

Charles Peterson
Pillsbury, Winthrop, Shaw & Pittman, LLP
2300 "N" Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037

Mr. Jay S. Gaines
Director, Licensing
Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant
1650 Calvert Cliffs Parkway
Lusby, MD 20657-4702

President
Calvert County Board of Commissioners
175 Main Street
Prince Frederick, MD 20678

Mr. Greg Gibson
Vice President, Regulatory Affairs
UniStar Nuclear Energy
100 Constellation Way, Suite 1400P
Baltimore, MD 21202-3106

Regional Administrator
Region I
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, PA 19406

COL – Calvert Cliffs Mailing List

Resident Inspector
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
P. O. Box 287
St. Leonard, MD 20685

Mr. Tom Sliva
Vice President
New Plants Project Management
AREVA, NP, Inc. 3315
Old Forest Road
P.O. Box 10935
Lynchburg, VA 24506-0935

Mr. David W. Sutherland
Chesapeake Bay Field Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
177 Admiral Cochrane Drive
Annapolis, MD 21401

Mr. George Wrobel
UniStar Nuclear Energy
100 Constellation Way, 1400P
Baltimore, MD 21202-3106

COL - Calvert Cliffs Mailing List

Email

APH@NEI.org (Adrian Heymer)
awc@nei.org (Anne W. Cottingham)
barbara.perdue@unistarnuclear.com (Barbara Perdue)
bob.brown@ge.com (Robert E. Brown)
BrinkmCB@westinghouse.com (Charles Brinkman)
carey.fleming@constellation.com (Carey Fleming)
chris.maslak@ge.com (Chris Maslak)
cwaltman@roe.com (C. Waltman)
david.lewis@pillsburylaw.com (David Lewis)
dlochbaum@UCSUSA.org (David Lochbaum)
eddie.grant@excelservices.com (Eddie Grant)
FAlexander@sha.state.md.us (Felicia Alexander)
george.wrobel@unistarnuclear.com (George Wrobel)
greg.gibson@unistarnuclear.com (Greg Gibson)
greshaja@westinghouse.com (James Gresham)
gzinke@entergy.com (George Alan Zinke)
jason.parker@pillsburylaw.com (Jason Parker)
jgutierrez@morganlewis.com (Jay M. Gutierrez)
jim.riccio@wdc.greenpeace.org (James Riccio)
JNesrsta@cpsenergy.com (James J. Nesrsta)
John.O'Neill@pillsburylaw.com (John O'Neill)
Joseph_Hegner@dom.com (Joseph Hegner)
KSutton@morganlewis.com (Kathryn M. Sutton)
kwaugh@impact-net.org (Kenneth O. Waugh)
lchandler@morganlewis.com (Lawrence J. Chandler)
lois@ieer.org (Lois Chalmers)
Marc.Brooks@dhs.gov (Marc Brooks)
maria.webb@pillsburylaw.com (Maria Webb)
mark.beaumont@wsms.com (Mark Beaumont)
matias.travieso-diaz@pillsburylaw.com (Matias Travieso-Diaz)
media@nei.org (Scott Peterson)
mike_moran@fpl.com (Mike Moran)
MSF@nei.org (Marvin Fertel)
nirsnet@nirs.org (Michael Mariotte)
patriciaL.campbell@ge.com (Patricia L. Campbell)
paul.gaukler@pillsburylaw.com (Paul Gaukler)
Paul@beyondnuclear.org (Paul Gunter)
phinnen@entergy.com (Paul Hinnenkamp)
pshastings@duke-energy.com (Peter Hastings)
RJB@NEI.org (Russell Bell)
RKTemple@cpsenergy.com (R.K. Temple)
RMClean@dnr.state.md.us (Richard McLean)
roberta.swain@ge.com (Roberta Swain)
sabinski@suddenlink.net (Steve A. Bennett)

COL - Calvert Cliffs Mailing List

sandra.sloan@areva.com (Sandra Sloan)
sfrantz@morganlewis.com (Stephen P. Frantz)
sgray@dnr.state.md.us (Susan Gray)
tkkibler@scana.com (Tria Kibler)
tlharpster@pplweb.om (Terry L. Harpster)
trsmith@winston.com (Tyson Smith)
Vanessa.quinn@dhs.gov (Vanessa Quinn)
VictorB@bv.com (Bill Victor)
Wanda.K.Marshall@dom.com (Wanda K. Marshall)
wj3@comcast.net (William Johnston)