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State of New Iersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION Environmental Regulation Office of Permit Coordination and Environmental Review 401 East State Street P.O. Box 423 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0423 Phone: (609) 292-3600 Fax: (609) 777-1330

December 5, 2006

Jennifer Davis, Branch Chief Environmental and Performance Assessment Directorate Division of Waste Management and Environmental Protection Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

## RE: Request for Information Regarding Endangered Species and Critical Habitat For the Shieldalloy Metallurigical Corporation Facility in Newfield, New Jersey

Dear Ms. Davis:

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) Office of Permit Coordination and Environmental Review has completed it review of your request for information regarding the endangered species and critical habitats for the Shieldalloy Metallurgical Corporation facility in Newfield New Jersey. We offer the following comments which supplements our letter dated November 28, 2006.

## **Division of Fish and Wildlife**

No records were found for endangered and threatened or priority species for the area of disturbance associated with the plant. However, understand the forest layer, the area adjacent to the south of the plant was valued for two plriority species (eastern box turtle and the eastern towhee). It should be noted that the Hudson Brook which is also immediately south of the disturbed area flows into the Maurice River via Brunt Mill. The DFW has concerns for any activity that could potentially damage the fragile ecosystem associated with the wild and scenic river and the Maurice River's varied fish and wildlife species. If you have any further questions please feel free to contact Don Wilkinson at (856) 785-2711.

LISA P. JACKSON

Commissioner

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JON S. CORZINE

## Natural Heritage Program

Your letter did not provide the Natural Heritage Program with adequate information to process this request, particularly a map indicating the boundaries of the project area. Below is the address for the Natural Heritage Program Data Request Form, which provides instructions for submitting Heritage data requests. The NRC should also indicate who should be billed for this data search.

## http://www.nj.gov/dep/parksandforests/natural/heritage/datareg.html

A response to this request will include information in the Natural Heritage Database on plants and ecological communities as well as information on animal species provided in the Department's Landscape Maps. If you have additional questions please feel free to contact Robert Cartica, Natural Lands Management, at (609) 984-1339.

Sincerely,

Kenneth C. Koschek Supervising Environmental Specialist Office of Permit Coordination and Environmental Review