

2.8 RELATED FEDERAL PROJECT ACTIVITIES

This section discusses the Federal activities that are related to this project and identifies whether there is a need for another Federal agency to participate in the review of the environmental report. Actions related to the granting of licenses, permits, or approvals by other Federal agencies for this project are not discussed in this section.

The project consists of one new nuclear generating plant, the Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant (BBNPP), which is located to the west of two currently licensed nuclear generating plants at the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station (SSES) site. PPL Bell Bend, LLC is applying for a combined license for the proposed nuclear power plant. The owner of the proposed project is PPL Bell Bend, LLC. The operator of the BBNPP will be the applicant, PPL Bell Bend, LLC.

2.8.1 LAND ACQUISITION AND USE OF ELECTRICAL TRANSMISSION CORRIDORS

The proposed new nuclear power plant is located on property owned by PPL Susquehanna, LLC (90%) and Allegheny Electric Cooperative (10%). A portion of land comprising part of the 500 kV transmission corridor running south to U.S. Rt. 11 is owned by PPL Electric Utilities Corporation (100%). All newly acquired properties (which will be part of the project boundary) are being placed in the name of PPL Bell Bend, LLC (100%). Once the SSES properties are subdivided, the BBNPP property will be placed in the name of PPL Bell Bend, LLC (100%) for the present. No Federal action is required to acquire or use the proposed site.

As detailed further in Section 1.2, PPL Bell Bend, LLC is a subsidiary of PPL Generation, LLC. PPL Susquehanna, LLC, which is also a subsidiary of PPL Generation, LLC, owns a 90% undivided interest in each of the two adjacent nuclear generating units at SSES. Allegheny Electric Cooperative, Inc. owns the remaining 10% undivided interest. PPL Generation, LLC is a subsidiary of PPL Energy Supply, LLC and owns or controls a generating capacity of 11,556 MW in the United States. PPL Energy Supply, LLC is a subsidiary of PPL Corporation, which is engaged in the generation and marketing of electric power in the U.S. and in the delivery of electricity in the United Kingdom.

The net electric generation of the proposed project is to be distributed using the existing offsite transmission corridors and the proposed Susquehanna-Roseland transmission line described below in Section 2.8.6. The Susquehanna-Roseland line will be constructed and permitted independently of the BBNPP project. No additional transmission corridors or other off-site land use will be required to connect the new reactor unit to the existing electrical grid. However, numerous breaker upgrades and associated modifications will be implemented within the existing substations. Additionally, based on the results of a generator interconnection impact study (PJM, 2008), certain sections of two off-site transmission lines will need to be reconducted to avoid network overloads during peak usage periods.

The net electric generation of the proposed project is to be distributed using the existing offsite transmission corridors. No additional transmission corridors or other offsite land use will be required to connect the new reactor unit to the 500 kV electrical grid.

No Federal action is required to acquire or use the existing offsite transmission corridors.

2.8.2 COOLING WATER SOURCE AND SUPPLY

Federal action to ensure the availability of cooling water source and supply is not anticipated during the lifetime of the proposed project.

2.8.3 OTHER FEDERAL ACTIONS AFFECTING CONSTRUCTION OR OPERATION

No Federal projects or activities were identified that must be completed as a condition of plant construction or operation.

2.8.4 FEDERAL AGENCY PLANS USED TO JUSTIFY THE NEED FOR POWER

The need for the power generated by the proposed project has not been justified based on plans or commitments of any Federal agency for significant new power purchases.

2.8.5 PLANNED FEDERAL PROJECTS CONTINGENT ON PLANT CONSTRUCTION OR OPERATION

No planned Federal projects have been identified that are contingent upon construction and operation of the proposed project.

2.8.6 NON-FEDERAL POTENTIAL IMPACTS

There are currently two known, planned non-Federal projects or activities in the region around the proposed project that may contribute to cumulative impacts in the areas of water consumption, water quality, air quality, transportation infrastructure, or socioeconomic resources. These include a new 42-in (106.7-cm) natural gas pipeline in Luzerne County, PA and the Susquehanna-Roseland electrical transmission line.

Transco proposes to expand its existing Leidy gas pipeline to allow additional transport of gas to southern New York. Part of the pipeline is located in Luzerne County (FERC, 2006).

The proposed electrical transmission line would run from a substation near the existing SSES to Roseland New Jersey for a total distance of approximately 130 mi (209 km) (FERC, 2008).

Additionally, SSES Units 1 and 2 were granted a 13% extended power uprate (EPU) by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission on January 30, 2008 (NRC, 2008a; NRC, 2008b). When fully implemented, the uprate is expected to increase the amount of cooling water that is being withdrawn from, and discharged back to, the Susquehanna River (PPL, 2006).

The potential impacts of these projects are discussed in Section 10.5

2.8.7 REFERENCES

FERC, 2006. U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Order Issuing Certificate, Docket No. CP06-34-000, Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corporation, May 18, 2006.

FERC, 2008. U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Order on Petition For Declaratory Order, Docket No. EL08-23-000, Susquehanna-Roseland Transmission Project, April 22, 2008.

NRC, 2008a. PPL Susquehanna, LLC and Allegheny Electric Cooperative, Inc., Docket No. 50-387, Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Unit 1, Amendment to Facility Operating License, Amendment No. 246, License No. NPF-14, January 30, 2008.

NRC 2008b. PPL Susquehanna LLC and Allegheny Electric Cooperative Inc., Docket No. 50-388, Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Unit 2, Amendment to Facility Operating License, Amendment No. 224, License No. NPF-22, January 30, 2008

PJM, 2008. PJM Generation Interconnection R01/R02 Susquehanna 1600 MW Impact Study, DMS #47826, April 2008

PPL, 2006. Susquehanna Steam Electric Station Units 1 & 2 License Renewal Application, Appendix E, "Applicant's Environmental Report - Operating License Renewal Stage, Susquehanna Steam Electric Station," PPL Susquehanna LLC, September 2006.