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March 30, 2011

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

**BELL BEND NUCLEAR POWER PLANT  
RESPONSE TO ENVIRONMENTAL REQUEST  
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION H 4.2-1  
BNP-2011-072                      Docket No. 52-039**

- References:
- 1) S. Imboden (NRC) to R. Sgarro (PPL Bell Bend, LLC), Requests for Additional Information Related to the Environmental Review for the Combined License Application for Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant, dated July 10, 2009
  - 2) R. R. Sgarro (PPL Bell Bend, LLC) to Document Control Desk (NRC), Schedule Update: Environmental Request for Additional Information H 4.2-1, dated February 28, 2011

The purpose of this letter is to respond to Environmental Report (ER) request for additional information (RAI) H 4.2-1 identified in Reference 1. In Reference 2, PPL Bell Bend, LLC (PPL) provided the NRC with schedule information related to submittal of RAI H 4.2-1. This RAI addresses environmental issues, as discussed in Part 3 of the Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant Combined License Application (BBNPP COLA).

Enclosure 1 contains the PPL response to RAI H 4.2-1. Enclosure 2 is the Construction Dewatering Design Report No. SL-009655, Revision 2, referred to in the RAI response. Enclosure 3 provides compact discs that contain data files associated with the dewatering report. The file format for the data files on the CDs is not required to pass NRC pre-flight requirements.

Changes to the BBNPP COLA resulting from this report will be incorporated into the associated supplements as they are transmitted. As such, this letter does not contain any new regulatory commitments.


If you have any questions, please contact the undersigned at 570.802.8102.

D102  
NRD

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

Executed on March 30, 2011

Respectfully,



Rocco R. Sgarro

RRS/kw

- Enclosures:
- 1) Response to RAI H 4.2-1
  - 2) Construction Dewatering Design Report No. SL-009655, Revision 2
  - 3) CD-1 SL-009655, Rev. 2 Data Files, CD-2 Visual MODFLOW Project Files (Disc 1 of 2), and CD-3 Visual MODFLOW Project Files (Disc 2 of 2)

cc: (w/ Enclosures)

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Enclosure 1

Response to RAI H 4.2-1

**RAI H 4.2-1****ESRP 4.2.1**

**Summary:** *Provide construction reports for the cutoff wall that will surround the nuclear island and Essential Service Water Emergency Makeup Supply (ESWEMS) pumphouse. Requested reports are: (1) "Construction Dewatering Design Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant Unistar Nuclear Energy", Sargent & Lundy Report No. SL-009655 Rev. 1, Dated December 27, 2008; and (2) "Construction Dewatering Evaluation Specification No B-4400, BBNPP," Weaver Boos Consultants, Project 2524301-01, Dated September 8, 2008. Also provide all input files necessary for the staff to duplicate the Visual MODFLOW results.*

**Full Text:** Staff needs information on the impact of dewatering of the major excavations for the nuclear island and the ESWEMS pumphouse, and the effect of this dewatering on the surrounding groundwater levels and nearby wetlands.

**Response:** The reports requested by RAI H 4.2-1 are no longer applicable as a result of the decision to relocate the plant footprint within the existing project boundary in order to reduce wetlands impacts. New engineering studies and associated groundwater modeling have been performed to reflect the construction dewatering requirements of the relocated Nuclear Island, Cooling Towers and the Essential Service Water Emergency Makeup System (ESWEMS) retention pond.

The new study available for review is Construction Dewatering Design Report No. SL-009655, Revision 2, dated November 23, 2010, attached as Enclosure 2. Appendix A of this dewatering report provides an evaluation of temporary construction dewatering strategies. The data files associated with the new dewatering report are included in three CD's as follows (Enclosure 3):

- CD-1 SL-009655, Rev. 2 Data Files
- CD-2 Visual MODFLOW Project Files (Disc 1 of 2)
- CD-3 Visual MODFLOW Project Files (Disc 2 of 2)

Construction Dewatering Design Report SL-009655 along with its associated Appendix A, fulfill the staff's need for information on the impact and effects of dewatering on the surrounding groundwater levels and nearby wetlands as requested by the RAI.

**COLA Impact**

Changes to the BBNPP COLA resulting from this report will be incorporated into the associated supplements as they are transmitted.