

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION III 1650 Arch Street Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029 June 20, 2011

Ms. Laura M. Quinn, Environmental Project Manager T-7D30 U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555-0001

RE: Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Combined License (COL) for Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant Unit 3 – NUREG - 1936.

Dear Ms. Quinn:

In accordance with Section 102(2) (C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. § 4332(2) (C), Section 309 of the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7609, and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations, 40 CFR Parts 1500-1508, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), has reviewed the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the above referenced project. The FEIS was prepared to assess the potential environmental impacts that would result from the construction and operation of an additional nuclear power unit (Unit 3) at the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant facility.

As you are aware, UniStar (project sponsor) proposes to construct and operate an Areva U.S. EPR 4500MW(t) pressurized-water reactor at its Calvert Cliffs Power Plant facility located in Calvert Cliffs, Maryland. The proposed Unit 3 would use a closed-cycle, mechanical draft cooling tower, with makeup water supplied by the Chesapeake Bay.

On July 9, 2010, EPA provided comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the above referenced project. EPA also rated the project as an EC-2 (Environmental Concerns-Insufficient Information) by identifying number of environmental concerns including:

- impacts to historic and cultural resources
- impacts to freshwater and related aquatic resources
- cooling water intake and discharge impacts on the Chesapeake Bay water and aquatic resources
- environmental justice analysis
- air conformity determination and the Limited Work Authorization Regulation
- greenhouse gas emissions

The FEIS has provided responses to these concerns. While EPA does not object to the response to our comments, we suggest that the NRC and the project sponsor continue to work with the resource agencies to find additional ways to avoid, minimize and mitigate the potential environmental impacts related to our concerns.

Printed on 100% recycled/recyclable paper with 100% post-consumer fiber and process chlorine free. Customer Service Hotline: 1-800-438-2474 EPA appreciates the NRC's efforts in early coordination throughout the development of the project. If you have any questions regarding our concerns, please feel free to contact me or Kevin Magerr at (215) 814 5724

Sincerely Barbara Rudnick, PG

NEPA Team Leader Office of Environmental Programs

