

December 22, 2011

Ms. Nancy Sutley, Chair
Council on Environmental Quality
Executive Office of the President
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Ms. Sutley:

Enclosed please find the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) Cooperating Agency Report regarding all Environmental Impact Statements (EISs) begun during Fiscal Year 2011 by a published Notice of Intent (NOI) and Environmental Assessments (EAs) completed during Fiscal Year 2011.

As stated during previous interactions and correspondence with Council on Environmental Quality representatives, the NRC does not routinely use cooperating agency agreements during development of EISs and EAs. However, the NRC issued NOIs in Fiscal Year 2011 for two EISs that involve cooperating agencies. One EIS involves the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) Galveston District's participation in the review of the proposed Exelon Victoria County Station Early Site Permit application for a new power reactor project located near McFaddin, Victoria County, Texas. The other EIS involves the Corps's Philadelphia District's participation in the review of the Public Service Enterprise Group Early Site Permit application for a new power reactor project located in Lower Alloways Creek Township, Salem County, New Jersey.

Although NRC does not normally invite other agencies to adopt formal cooperating agency status in the vast majority of NRC licensing actions, we routinely and extensively consult with other Federal, State, Tribal and local entities during development of EISs and EAs. We believe that these efforts to seek other agencies' input achieve the spirit of more formal Cooperating Agency relationships.

We appreciate the opportunity to continue providing information on this matter. If you need further information from the NRC, please contact me or Richard Turtill. Mr. Turtill can be reached at 301-415-2308 or E-mail: Richard.Turtill@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Keith I. McConnell, Ph.D., Acting Director
Division of Intergovernmental Liaison
and Rulemaking
Office of Federal and State Materials
and Environmental Management Programs

Enclosure:
Cooperating Agency Report

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Cooperating Agency Report

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