

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

500 Lafayette Road • St. Paul, MN • 55155-40



July 3, 2012

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Mr. Kevin Hsueh
Mail Stop T-8F05
Washington, DC 20555

Re: Request for Information Regarding Resources Potentially Affected by the Proposed 40-year License Renewal for Prairie Island Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (Docket No. 72-10)

Dear Mr. Hsueh:

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has reviewed the Prairie Island Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI) Application for a Renewed ISFSI Site-Specific License and has considered possible natural resource topics for analysis in an Environmental Assessment.

The application addresses possible floodplain impacts well. The storage area is shown on the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Maps as being located in the 500-year floodplain. The report states that concrete pad is at an elevation of 694.5 feet. The 100-year flood at this location is 686.6 feet; the 500-year elevation is about 689.8 feet. The report states that the casks are protected to the maximum probable flood elevation of 703.6 feet. Due to the location of the project in the 500-year floodplain, also including flood protection information in the Environmental Assessment would be informative.

Correspondence with the DNR Natural Heritage Information System coordinator is included in Attachment A of the application. This information is adequately updated for the nature and location of the project. Continuing to assess any possible impacts to identified species and native plant communities is encouraged in the Environmental Assessment.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Application for Renewed ISFSI Site-Specific License for the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant. Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jamie Schrenzel". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Jamie Schrenzel
Principal Planner
Environmental Review Unit
(651) 259-5115

cc: Jean Trefethen, NRC