

## BellBendEnveRAIPEm Resource

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**From:** Quinn-Willingham, Laura  
**Sent:** Friday, August 31, 2012 2:03 PM  
**To:** Sgarro, Rocco R  
**Cc:** Kropp, Roy K; Kuntzleman, Nancy; Mcdowell, Bruce K; Hsia, Anthony; Leigh, Kimberly D; Goldin, Laura; BellBendEnveRAIPEm Resource  
**Subject:** Bell Bend Final RAIs for Aquatic Ecology  
**Attachments:** ENV-02 RAI\_6745\_AE.pdf

Please find attached RAI Env-03 for the Bell Bend COL application. The ENV-03 RAI is an aggregate of the draft Aquatic Ecology RAIs (AE-7 and AE-31) that were provided to you on August 13, 2012 as part of a complete table of draft RAIs. There were no request for a clarification discussion of these draft RAIs. No other changes are necessary; hence we are issuing this RAI as final.

The schedule we have established to the review of your application assumes technically correct and complete responses within 30 calendar days of receipt of RAIs. For any RAIs that cannot be responded to within 30 calendar days, it is expected that a date for receipt of this information will be provided to the staff within the 30-day period so that the staff can assess how this information might impact the schedule.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

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**Received Date:** 8/31/2012 2:02:43 PM  
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**Created By:** Laura.Quinn-Willingham@nrc.gov

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**Request for Additional Information ENV-03**

Issue Date: 8/31/2012

Application Title: Bell Bend Environmental Review Docket Number 52-039

Operating Company: PPL Bell Bend LLC.

Docket No. 52-039

Review Section: EIS 2.4.2 - Aquatic Ecology

Application Section: Part 3: Environmental Report

**QUESTIONS**

**EIS 2.4.2-6**

Discuss the locations, species, and approximate quantity or abundance of submerged vegetation in the Susquehanna River near Bell Bend.

Supporting Information:

ESRP Section 2.4.2 directs the staff's description of the aquatic environment and biota at and in the vicinity of the site and other areas likely to be affected by the construction, maintenance, or operation of the proposed project.

The ER does not discuss submerged vegetation in the Susquehanna River. Such vegetation would provide important habitat for fish, such as smallmouth bass. PPL's Joint Permit Application to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Appendix B-07, contains Figure 5-4 a photo of plants in the river. The applicant noted that consultants will survey aquatic vegetation at water-quality monitoring sites during smallmouth bass surveys later this year.

This was Info Need AE-7.

Acceptance Criteria:

ESRP 2.4.2 and 10 CFR 51.45

**EIS 2.4.2-7**

Discuss the potential occurrence of non-native mollusks, such as Asian clams and zebra mussels in onsite water storage features, such as the Essential Service Water Emergency Makeup Supply (ESWEMS) Retention Pond, at Bell Bend. Discuss methods of water treatment to prevent occurrence and colonization of non-native mollusks.

Supporting Information:

ESRP Sections 2.4.2 and 5.3.2.2 require information about nonnative, nuisance, or invasive species.

During the site audit, the applicant indicated that many operational procedures for Bell Bend would be adapted from procedures currently used at SSES. The response to Information Need AE-9 in BNP-2012-131 (dated May 31, 2012 (ML121580599)) states that zebra mussels found in the pump forebays of the SSES spray pond apparently were not affected by the molluscicide applications in the pond because of poor circulation in the pond. This suggests that the program to keep mussels from colonizing the pond was not entirely successful. It is necessary to know how the SSES procedure for applying molluscicide would be modified or what additional steps would be taken to reduce the likelihood that this would happen at Bell Bend.

This is a new request and therefore was assigned as Info Need AE-31 in the draft RAI table.

Acceptance Criteria:

ESRP 2.4.2 and 5.3.2; 10 CFR 51.45