

## BellBendEnveRAIPEm Resource

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**From:** Quinn-Willingham, Laura  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 28, 2012 5:42 PM  
**To:** Sgarro, Rocco R  
**Cc:** Becker, James M; Doub, Peyton; Terry, Tomeka; Haque, Mohammad; Lyle F Hibler; Kuntzleman, Nancy; Mcdowell, Bruce K; Leigh, Kimberly D; Goldin, Laura; Wright, Megan; BellBendEnveRAIPEm Resource  
**Subject:** Final Terrestrial Ecology and Water Availability RAI for the Bell Bend Environmental Review  
**Attachments:** ENV-21 RAI\_6903\_TE Water Availability.pdf

Rocky,  
Please find attached the final RAI Env-21 for the Bell Bend COL application related to water availability and terrestrial ecology impacts. The draft RAI for ENV-21 was issued on 11/14/2012. PPL did not request a clarification call on the draft RAI and therefore there are no changes to the RAI.

The NRC assumes technically correct and complete responses within 30 calendar days of receipt of final 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.  
Thanks

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**Hearing Identifier:** BellBend\_COL\_Env\_RAI  
**Email Number:** 28

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**Subject:** Final Terrestrial Ecology and Water Availability RAI for the Bell Bend  
Environmental Review  
**Sent Date:** 11/28/2012 5:41:45 PM  
**Received Date:** 11/28/2012 5:41:47 PM  
**From:** Quinn-Willingham, Laura

**Created By:** Laura.Quinn-Willingham@nrc.gov

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MESSAGE	1120	11/28/2012 5:41:47 PM
ENV-21 RAI_6903_TE Water Availability.pdf		60093

**Options**

**Priority:** Standard  
**Return Notification:** No  
**Reply Requested:** No  
**Sensitivity:** Normal  
**Expiration Date:**  
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## **Request for Additional Information ENV-21**

Issue Date: 11/14/2012

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

Operating Company: PPL Bell Bend LLC.

Docket No. 52-039

Review Section: EIS 2.4.1 - Terrestrial and Wetland Ecology

Application Section: Part 3 - Environmental Report

### **QUESTION**

#### **EIS 2.4.1-9**

The NRC staff, in its environmental impact statement as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), needs to evaluate the ecological effects on wetlands and floodplains from the potential addition of up to 28 million gallons per day of supplemental water for consumptive use, which will be required by the Susquehanna River Basin Commission.

The ESRP 2.4.1 directs that the Staff identify and describe wetland and floodplain resources in the vicinity of the Bell Bend site that could be impacted by construction or operation of the plant. ESRP 5.3.3.2 directs that the Staff identify and evaluate the impacts to terrestrial ecosystems, including wetlands and floodplains, due to the operation of heat dissipation systems, the cooling towers, and cooling ponds.

To determine the ecological effects from the addition of this supplemental water on wetlands, floodplains, and associated habitats and wildlife species, the NRC staff requests information on the available options the applicant will use for flow supplementation, the approximate locations of the water withdrawal, routes of conveyance (e.g., streams, rivers that would carry the supplemental water), discharge points for each supplemental water option, and the approximate frequency of use and amount of supplementation water for each available option.

Provide a description of wetlands and floodplains associated with the water source, conveyance routes, and receiving waterbodies for the plant's supplemental water. It is acceptable to reference publicly available data from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetlands Inventory and Federal Emergency Management Agency National Flood Insurance Program flood maps. Describe in qualitative terms to what extent (e.g., areal extent and depth) and for how long wetlands and floodplains might be affected by supplemental water withdrawal (potential dewatering) and conveyance and discharge (potential flooding). Describe the possible associated potential impacts to wetland and floodplain vegetation and associated wildlife, based on the magnitude and duration of recurring dewatering or flooding events. Describe the process and estimate the time that may be required for such affected resources to return to pre-dewatering or pre-flooding conditions.

Acceptance Criteria:

ESRP Sections 2.4.1 and 5.3.3.2; 10 CFR 51.75