



Ysleta del Sur Pueblo

Tribal Council – Javier Loera (War Captain/Tribal Historic and Preservation Officer) E-mail jloera@ydsp-nsn.gov

117 South Old Pueblo Road * P.O. Box 17579 * El Paso, Texas 79917 * (915) 859-8053 * Cell (915) 497-3876

January 10, 2013

Melanie C. Wong, Chief
Environmental Review and Guidance
Update Branch
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Regulation
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

12/18/2012
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RULES AND DIRECTIVES
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USNRC

Dear Melanie C. Wong:

This letter is response to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) environmental review of the effects of renewing the operating license for South Texas Project, Units 1 and 2 (STP), located in Matagorda County, Texas.

The Ysleta del Sur Pueblo does not have any comments nor does it request consultation on this project due to its location being outside of our Pueblo's Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) area of interest and/or relevance.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to comment on this proposed undertaking.

Sincerely,

Javier Loera
War Captain/Tribal Historic and Preservation Officer
Ysleta del Sur Pueblo of Texas
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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

December 18, 2012

Mr. Frank Paiz, Governor
Ysleta del Sur Pueblo
119 S. Old Pueblo Rd.
P.O. Box 17579
El Paso, TX 79917

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR LICENSE RENEWAL OF
SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT UNITS 1 AND 2 FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Dear Governor Paiz:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is conducting an environmental review of the effects of renewing the operating license for South Texas Project, Units 1 and 2 (STP). STP is located in Matagorda County, Texas, and is operated by STP Nuclear Operating Company (STPNOC). As part of its review, the NRC has completed a draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for license renewal of STP. This letter is to inform you and members of your tribe that the draft SEIS for the license renewal of STP is available for public comment.

The NRC staff is distributing the draft SEIS to your tribe for comment, as well as to the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe, the Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma, the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma, the Tonkawa Tribe of Oklahoma, the Apalachicola Band of Creek Indians, the Lipan Apache Tribe of Texas, the Pamaque Clan of Coahuila Y Tejas, the Tap Pilam-Coahuiltecan Nation, and the Kickapoo Traditional Council of Texas. The SEIS includes analyses of relevant environmental issues, including potential impacts to historic, archeological, and cultural properties from continued plant operation and refurbishment activities associated with license renewal.

As stated in our letter to your tribe dated February 17, 2011, the NRC is conducting Section 106 consultations in compliance with National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) through the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as outlined in 36 CFR 800.8(c). In the context of NEPA, the NRC's preliminary determination is that any impact from continued power plant operations and maintenance activities during the license renewal term on historical and archaeological resources located in the area of potential effect would be small. Under the provisions of NHPA, the NRC also determined that historic properties would not be adversely affected by this undertaking (the renewal of the STP operating license). The justification for this conclusion is explained in Section 4.9.6 of the draft SEIS.

As discussed in Section 9.4 of the draft SEIS, the NRC's preliminary recommendation is that the adverse environmental impacts of license renewal for STP are not great enough to deny the option of license renewal for energy-planning decision-makers. This recommendation is based on (1) the analysis and findings in the GEIS; (2) the environmental report submitted by STPNOC; (3) consultation with Federal, State, Tribal and local agencies; (4) the NRC's environmental review; and (5) consideration of public comments received during the scoping process.