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February 1, 2013

ATTN: Document Control Desk
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

**BELL BEND NUCLEAR POWER PLANT
RESPONSE TO ER RAIs ENV-22 and ENV-23
BNP-2013-016 Docket No. 52-039**

- References: 1) Email from L. Quinn-Willingham (NRC) to R. Sgarro (PPL), Final RAI Follow-up HY-5_Pipeline, dated January 4, 2013.
2) Email from L. Quinn-Willingham (NRC) to R. Sgarro (PPL), Final RAI ENV-23 (Follow-up to GEN-2), dated January 4, 2013.

The purpose of this letter is to respond to Requests for Additional Information (RAI) ENV-22 and ENV-23 provided to PPL Bell Bend, LLC (PPL) by NRC in References 1 and 2. RAI ENV-22 addresses Water-Related Impacts and RAI ENV-23 addresses Proposed Plant Structures as discussed in Sections 4.2 and 3.2, respectively, of the Environmental Report (ER) submitted in Part 3 of the Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant (BBNPP) Combined License Application (COLA). The enclosure to this letter provides PPL's responses to ENV-22 and ENV-23.

GIS files requested in RAIs ENV-22 and ENV-23 are being prepared by PPL, and will be submitted to the NRC on or before February 21, 2013.

The only new regulatory commitment in this letter is to submit the GIS files mentioned above.

Should you have questions or need additional information, please contact the undersigned at 610.774.7552.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on February 1, 2013.

Respectfully,


Rocco R. Sgarro

RRS/kw

Enclosure: Responses to RAIs ENV-22 and ENV-23.

DIDZ
NRD

cc: (w/ Enclosure)

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(w/o Enclosure)

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Enclosure

Responses to RAIs ENV-22 and ENV-23.

RAI ENV-22**Question EIS 4.2-4**

ESRP Section 4.2.1 directs the staff to identify, analyze and describe the hydrologic alterations resulting from construction activities at the site, transmission line corridors, and other offsite areas. Specifically, ESRP Section 4.2.1 request that the staff identify and describe construction activities such as site preparation, plant construction, transmission corridor clearing and transmission line construction, and offsite construction that could result in hydrologic alterations, and the physical effects of these alterations on other water users. This section also directs staff to cooperate with the land use, water use, terrestrial ecology, and aquatic ecology reviewers (ESRP Sections 4.1.1, 4.2.2, 4.3.1, and 4.3.2) in determining the extent and magnitude of resulting impacts and evaluating means of mitigation. ESRP Section 5.2.1 directs the staff's identification, analysis, and description of hydrologic alterations resulting from plant operation and the staff's analysis of the adequacy of the water sources proposed to supply plant water needs.

The staff did not find PPL's description of the proposed pipeline for construction water in the environmental report or in the response to request for additional information HY-5(BNP-20012-199 dated 8/27/2012 ML12249A038) to be sufficient for the NRC staff to evaluate its environmental impact.

Therefore, please describe details of the water pipeline connecting the public utility to the Bell Bend site that will be used during construction, and indicate whether this pipeline will be the same pipeline used for potable water supply during operation of the plant following construction.

Additionally, please indicate whether the public utility has the additional capacity to provide the amount of water needed for construction and operation uses (during construction peak water demand is up to 1200 gpm and an average construction use is estimated at 250 gpm according to the Section 4.2.1.3 of the ER; during operation potable/sanitary water use is estimated to be 236 gpm according to ER Section 3.3 and Table 3.3-1). Describe such details as the pipeline length and routing, including any stream crossings; whether new right(s)-of-way would be needed; pipeline size; installation activities/methods; approximate acres of lands affected by type, including wetlands; the environmental impacts of construction of the pipeline both on and off the site; and permanent effects of the pipeline following construction. Also describe the routing, size, and all environmental impacts of construction and operation of any proposed sewer pipelines between proposed plant facilities and the Berwick Area Joint Sewer Authority. Indicate whether sanitary facilities connected to the public utility would be used during the construction period. Provide GIS shapefiles and associated metadata for the proposed new potable water pipeline route from source to BBNPP site, proposed potable water pipeline route(s) on the BBNPP site, and any proposed sewer pipeline routes on and off the BBNPP site.

Acceptance Criteria: ESRP Section 4.2.1, 4.1.1, 4.2.2, 4.3.1, 4.3.2 and 5.2.1

Response:

As part of the planned activities supporting construction and operation of the Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant (BBNPP), PPL Bell Bend, LLC (PPL) will contract with the Pennsylvania American

Water Company (PAWC) to provide potable water to the BBNPP site. Currently planned to be installed to support construction, the proposed permanent 16" water pipeline originates from an existing pressurized water main located at Front and Walnut Streets in Berwick, and will follow U.S. Route 11 north and extending to the BBNPP site via Confers Lane for approximately 4,000 linear feet, as shown on Environmental Report (ER) Figure 2.1-5, "Area Uses During Construction." Water from this same pipeline will serve all non-cooling related potable and construction water needs associated with BBNPP during construction and operation.

Planning, permitting, and construction of the proposed water pipeline will be the sole responsibility of PAWC, and PAWC will own the pipeline once constructed. As visible on ER Figure 2.1-5, the new pipeline follows the route of Confers Lane from U.S. Route 11 to its terminus at the BBNPP Potable Water Metering Building. GIS shapefiles and associated metadata for the new pipeline are currently being prepared, and will be submitted to the NRC on or before February 21, 2013.

Throughout its length the pipeline routing will be within the existing roadway easement, and will have no impact on any wetlands, waterways, or other previously undeveloped habitats. No new rights-of-way will be developed for the new pipeline. Sanitary sewer lines exist within U.S. Route 11 and along part of Confers Lane. The proposed water line will be constructed with a 10-foot offset from those lines.

In coordination with the Berwick Area Joint Sewer Authority, a sanitary sewer line will also be extended along Confers Lane to serve BBNPP, and similar to the water line, will be located within the road right-of-way and will not disturb any wetlands, waterways, or previously undeveloped lands. This sewer service will be used during both construction and operation phases of BBNPP.

The water source supplying the proposed line supporting BBNPP is the PAWC Canal Street Pumping Station. PPL submitted an application (Approval by Rule) to the Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC) for the associated water withdrawal supplying BBNPP in March, 2012 (Letter BNP-2012-058). PAWC has indicated the permitted capacity of the well cluster is 4.6 million gallons per day, and the current withdrawal rate is approximately 1.6 million gallons per day.

The Canal Street well cluster will continue to operate below its permitted capacity even in consideration of the increased demand associated with BBNPP. Specifically, factoring in the average additional withdrawal for BBNPP—(250 gallons per minute)the Canal Street well cluster would be withdrawing only 23 percent of permitted capacity, which is well within the safe yield of the existing well cluster. Peak withdrawals of up to 1200 gallons per minute would occur for brief periods during construction, and would represent 72 percent of the permitted capacity of the well cluster.

COLA Impact:

The BBNPP COLA ER will not be changed as a result of this response.

RAI ENV-23**Question EIS 3.2-1:**

ESRP Section 3.1 directs the staff's description of the planning, layout, and appearance of the proposed plant and existing station structures and any related offsite structures and should consider (1) the layout, landscaping, and architectural features of the proposed project and any other existing station structures and (2) the aesthetic concepts and visual concerns that have been considered in the planning and design of the proposed project.

The GIS shapefiles submitted by PPL in response to RAI ENV-06 submitted on August 27, 2012 (ML12249A038) included blowdown pipeline routing, but did not include CWS and RWS pipeline routing.

Please provide GIS shapefile(s) showing the CWS and RWS pipeline routing from the BBNPP intake on the Susquehanna River to the plant/cooling towers.

Acceptance Criteria: ESRP Section 3.1

Response:

GIS shapefiles and associated metadata detailing the CWS and RWS pipeline routing are currently being prepared, and will be submitted to the NRC on or before February 21, 2013.

COLA Impact:

The BBNPP COLA ER will not be changed as a result of this response.