



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

February 24, 2014

Mr. Tom Melius
Midwest Regional Director
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
5600 American Blvd. West, Suite 990
Bloomington, MN 55437-1458

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR CONCURRENCE ON THE EFFECTS OF THE
PROPOSED CALLAWAY PLANT, UNIT 1, LICENSE RENEWAL ON
FEDERALLY THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

Dear Mr. Melius:

With this letter, and in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA), the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) requests your concurrence with NRC's determination that the proposed license renewal of the Callaway Plant, Unit 1 (Callaway), may affect, but is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any Federally listed or proposed species or critical habitat under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (FWS's) jurisdiction.

Project Summary

Callaway is located in Callaway County approximately 10 miles southeast of Fulton and 80 miles west of the St. Louis metropolitan area. Callaway is a single-unit pressurized-water reactor plant that uses a closed-cycle cooling water system.

The NRC's Federal action is the decision whether to renew the Callaway operating license for an additional 20 years of operation. Callaway's current operating license expires in 2024. If approved, the license renewal would allow Callaway to operate through 2044. The NRC considered the remainder of the current operating license term as well as the renewed operating license term in its analysis of effects to Federally protected species and habitats.

The Callaway site is 7,354 acres and lies in a predominantly rural area. Power generating facilities, including the containment building, a natural draft cooling tower, a switchyard, a retention pond, a water treatment plant, and other associated buildings and infrastructure occupy 512 acres. The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) manages 6,300 acres of the site as the Reform Conservation Area, much of which is open to the public for hiking, birding, hunting, and fishing. The MDC also manages this area to conserve natural habitats and remove invasive plant species. The remaining site land consists of deciduous forest, grassland/pasture, and cropland.

Callaway withdraws about 14,000 to 17,000 gallons per minute of water from the Missouri River for cooling purposes. Water travels through pipes approximately 5 miles north from the Missouri River to the plant. The cooling water intake system includes vertical traveling screens and fish

escape openings in the side walls, but no fish-return system. Heated water is discharged to a natural draft cooling tower, and water that does not evaporate returns to the Missouri River.

Section 7 Consultation History

In a letter dated April 20, 2012, and in accordance with section 7 of the ESA, the NRC requested that the FWS concur with its table of Federally listed species that occur in the vicinity of Callaway. Mr. Rick Hansen, Columbia Missouri Ecological Services Office, responded in an e-mail dated September 10, 2012, that the NRC should consider the impacts of the proposed license renewal on both the Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and the pallid sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus albus*). Previous to this response, Mr. Hansen attended a portion of the NRC staff's environmental site audit at the Callaway site during the week of May 21, 2012, during which he discussed the proposed license renewal and potential effects on listed species with NRC staff ecologists.

Request for Concurrence with the NRC's Biological Assessment and ESA Effect Determinations

Since the time of the correspondence discussed above, the NRC has performed an assessment of whether the proposed license renewal of Callaway has the potential to affect the Indiana bat and pallid sturgeon, as well as six other Federally listed species. This assessment is documented in the enclosed draft Supplement 51 to NUREG-1437, "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants" (SEIS), regarding the license renewal of Callaway, which the NRC prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA). In accordance with the provisions of Title 50, Part 402.06 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR 402.06), the NRC has included its assessment of Federally listed species in the SEIS, and the NRC considers the SEIS to fulfill the staff's requirement to prepare a biological assessment in accordance with 50 CFR 402.12.

In Sections 2.2.8 and 4.8 of the SEIS, the NRC staff concludes that the continued operation of Callaway during the license renewal term may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the following species:

Niangua darter (<i>Etheostoma nianguae</i>),	gray bat (<i>Myotis grisescens</i>),
pink mucket (<i>Lampsilis abrupta</i>),	Indiana bat (<i>Myotis sodalis</i>),
scaleshell (<i>Leptodea leptodon</i>),	running buffalo clover (<i>Trifolium stoloniferum</i>), and
Topeka shiner (<i>Notropis topeka</i>),	spectaclecase (<i>Cumberlandia monodonta</i>).

For the pallid sturgeon, Appendix H of the SEIS contains a separate biological assessment, which concludes that the present and future operation of Callaway through the proposed license renewal term may affect, but is not likely to jeopardize, the continued existence of the pallid sturgeon. Any adverse effects to this species would accrue primarily through direct mortality caused by entrainment and impingement of larvae and juveniles.

The NRC staff did not identify any proposed species or proposed or designated critical habitat within the action area and, thus, concluded that the proposed license renewal would have no effect on any species or habitats with these designations.

With this letter, we are requesting FWS's concurrence with the staff's effect determinations under section 7 of the ESA. In reaching our conclusions, the NRC staff relied on information provided by the applicant, on analyses performed by NRC staff, and on information from FWS.

Request for NEPA Comments on Draft SEIS

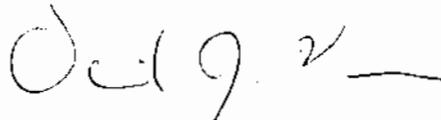
As indicated above, the NRC is also performing a NEPA review for the proposed Callaway license renewal. The NRC prepared the enclosed draft SEIS in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51, the NRC's regulation that implements NEPA, and is now seeking comments on the document through April 7, 2014. During the draft SEIS comment period, the NRC staff plans to hold two public environmental meetings at Fulton City Hall, 18 East 4th Street, Fulton, Missouri, 65251, on March 19, 2014, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. I invite you and your staff to both attend the public meetings and to submit comments on the draft SEIS. See the enclosed *Federal Register* notice or go to <http://www.Regulations.gov> and search for documents filed under Docket ID NRC-2012-0001 for additional information on the NEPA process and on how to submit draft SEIS comments.

Conclusion

If you have any questions regarding the staff's request, please contact Dr. Dennis Logan, Aquatic Ecologist, at 301-415-0490 or by e-mail at dennis.logan@nrc.gov, or Ms. Briana Grange, Biologist, at 301-415-1042 or by e-mail at briana.grange@nrc.gov.

I have also forwarded a copy of this letter to Mr. Hansen as well as Ms. Amy Salveter and Ms. Jane Ledwin of your Columbia Missouri Field Office, each of whom my staff has been in contact with during the NRC's review of the Callaway license renewal application.

Sincerely,



David J. Wrona, Chief
Environmental Review
and Guidance Update Branch
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-483

Enclosures:
As stated

With this letter, we are requesting FWS's concurrence with the staff's effect determinations under section 7 of the ESA. In reaching our conclusions, the NRC staff relied on information provided by the applicant, on analyses performed by NRC staff, and on information from FWS.

Request for NEPA Comments on Draft SEIS

As indicated above, the NRC is also performing a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review for the proposed Callaway license renewal. The NRC prepared the enclosed draft SEIS in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51, the NRC's regulation that implements NEPA, and is now seeking comments on the document through April 7, 2014. During the draft SEIS comment period, the NRC staff plans to hold two public environmental meetings at Fulton City Hall, 18 East 4th Street, Fulton, Missouri, 65251, on March 19, 2014, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. I invite you and your staff to both attend the public meetings and to submit comments on the draft SEIS. See the enclosed *Federal Register* notice or go to <http://www.Regulations.gov> and search for documents filed under Docket ID NRC-2012-0001 for additional information on the NEPA process and on how to submit draft SEIS comments.

Conclusion

If you have any questions regarding the staff's request, please contact Dr. Dennis Logan, aquatic ecologist, at 301-415-0490 or by e-mail at dennis.logan@nrc.gov, or Ms. Briana Grange, biologist, at 301-415-1042 or by e-mail at briana.grange@nrc.gov.

I have also forwarded a copy of this letter to Mr. Hansen as well as Ms. Amy Salveter and Ms. Jane Ledwin of your Columbia Missouri Field Office, each of whom my staff has been in contact with during the NRC's review of the Callaway license renewal application.

Sincerely,

/RA/

David J. Wrona, Chief
Environmental Review
and Guidance Update Branch
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-483

Enclosures: As stated

DISTRIBUTION: See next page

ADAMS Accession Nos.: ML14041A401 (package), ML13176A379 (letter)
Enclosures: ML14041A373 (draft SEIS), ML14043A536 (FRN)

OFFICE	LA:DLR	AB:RERB:DLR	AB:RERB:DLR	BC:RPB2:DLR	LA:DLR	BC:RERB:DLR
NAME	IKing	BGrange	DLogan	BWittick (DDrucker for)	IKing	DWrona
DATE	7/3/2013	2/18/2014	2/19/2014	2/19/2014	2/21/2014	2/24/2014

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Letter to T. Melius from D. Wrona dated February 24, 2014

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR CONCURRENCE ON THE EFFECTS OF THE PROPOSED
CALLAWAY PLANT LICENSE RENEWAL ON FEDERALLY THREATENED
AND ENDANGERED SPECIES**

DISTRIBUTION:

HARD COPY:

Ms. Amy Salveter
Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Columbia Missouri Field Office
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Columbia, MO 65203-0057

Mr. Rick Hansen
Fish and Wildlife Biologist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
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101 Park DeVille Drive, Suite A
Columbia, MO 65203-0057

Ms. Jane Ledwin
Fish and Wildlife Biologist
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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-483; NRC-2012-0001]

License Renewal Application for Callaway Plant, Unit 1

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Draft supplemental generic environmental impact statement; issuance, public meeting, and request for comment.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is issuing for public comment a draft, plant-specific, Supplement 51 to the Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants, NUREG-1437, regarding the renewal of operating license NPF-30 for an additional 20 years of operation for Callaway Plant, Unit 1 (Callaway). Callaway is located in Callaway County, Missouri. Possible alternatives to the proposed action (license renewal) include no action and reasonable alternative energy sources. The NRC staff plans to hold two public meetings during the public comment period to present an overview of the draft plant-specific supplement to the GEIS and to accept public comments on the document.

DATES: Submit comments by April 7, 2014. Comments received after this date will be considered, if it is practical to do so, but the NRC staff is able to ensure consideration only for comments received on or before this date.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the following methods (unless this document describes a different method for submitting comments on a specific subject):

- **Federal Rulemaking Web Site:** Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC-2012-0001. Address questions about NRC dockets to Carol Gallagher; telephone: 301-287-3422; e-mail: Carol.Gallagher@nrc.gov. For technical questions, contact the individual listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section of this document.

- **Mail comments to:** Cindy Bladey, Chief, Rules, Announcements, and Directives Branch, Office of Administration, Mail Stop: 3WFN-06-44M, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

For additional direction on accessing information and submitting comments, see "Accessing Information and Submitting Comments" in the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section of this document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Carmen Fells, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, telephone: 301-415-6337 or by e-mail at Carmen.Fells@nrc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Accessing Information and Submitting Comments.

A. Accessing Information

Please refer to Docket ID NRC-2012-0001 when contacting the NRC about the availability of information regarding this document. You may access publicly-available information related to this document by any of the following methods:

- **Federal Rulemaking Web Site:** Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC-2012-0001.

- **NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS):**
You may access publicly available documents online in the NRC Library at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To begin the search, select "ADAMS Public Documents" and then select "Begin Web-based ADAMS Search." For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC's Public Document Room reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737, or by e-mail to pdr_resource@nrc.gov. The ADAMS accession number for each document referenced in this document (if that document is available in ADAMS) is provided the first time that a document is referenced. The draft plant-specific Supplement 51 to the GEIS for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants, NUREG-1437, is available in ADAMS under Accession No. ML14041A373.

- **NRC's PDR:** You may examine and purchase copies of public documents at the NRC's PDR, Room O1-F21, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

- In addition, a copy of the draft supplement to the GEIS is available at the Callaway County Public Library, 710 Court Street, Fulton, MO 65251.

B. Submitting Comments

Please include Docket ID NRC-2012-0001 in the subject line of your comment submission, in order to ensure that the NRC is able to make your comment submission available to the public in this docket.

The NRC cautions you not to include identifying or contact information that you do not want to be publicly disclosed in your comment submission. The NRC will post all comment

submissions at <http://www.regulations.gov> as well as enter the comment submissions into ADAMS. The NRC does not routinely edit comment submissions to remove identifying or contact information.

If you are requesting or aggregating comments from other persons for submission to the NRC, then you should inform those persons not to include identifying or contact information that they do not want to be publicly disclosed in their comment submission. Your request should state that the NRC does not routinely edit comment submissions to remove such information before making the comment submissions available to the public or entering the comment submissions into ADAMS.

II. Discussion.

The NRC is issuing for public comment a draft plant-specific Supplement 51 to the GEIS for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants, NUREG-1437, regarding the renewal of operating license NPF-30 for an additional 20 years of operation for Callaway. Supplement 51 to the GEIS includes the preliminary analysis that evaluates the environmental impacts of the proposed action and alternatives to the proposed action. The NRC's preliminary recommendation is that the adverse environmental impacts of license renewal for Callaway are not great enough to deny the option of license renewal for energy planning decision makers.

III. Public Meetings.

The NRC staff will hold public meetings prior to the close of the public comment period to present an overview of the draft plant-specific supplement to the GEIS and to accept public comment on the document. Two meetings will be held at the Fulton City Hall, 18 East 4th Street,

Fulton, Missouri 65251 on Wednesday, March 19, 2014. The first session will convene at 2:00 p.m. and will continue until 3:30 p.m., as necessary. The second session will convene at 7:00 p.m. and will continue until 8:30 p.m., as necessary. The meetings will be transcribed and will include: (1) a presentation of the contents of the draft plant-specific supplement to the GEIS, and (2) the opportunity for interested government agencies, organizations, and individuals to provide comments on the draft report. Additionally, the NRC staff will host informal discussions one hour prior to the start of each session at the same location. No comments on the draft supplement to the GEIS will be accepted during the informal discussions. To be considered, comments must be provided either at the transcribed public meeting or in writing. Persons may pre-register to attend or present oral comments at the meeting by contacting Ms. Carmen Fells, the NRC Environmental Project Manager, at 1-800-368-5642, extension 6337, or by e-mail at Carmen.Fells@nrc.gov no later than Monday, March 10, 2014. Members of the public may also register to provide oral comments within 15 minutes of the start of each session. Individual oral comments may be limited by the time available, depending on the number of persons who register. If special equipment or accommodations are needed to attend or present information at the public meeting, the need should be brought to Ms. Fells' attention no later than Monday, March 10, 2014, to provide the NRC staff adequate notice to determine whether the request can be accommodated.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 12th day of February, 2014.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

/RA/

Brian D. Wittick, Chief,
Projects Branch 2,
Division of License Renewal,
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.