



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

February 9, 2015

Mr. Reid Nelson, Director
Office of Federal Agency Programs
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
401 F Street NW, Suite 308
Washington, DC 20001-2637

SUBJECT: LASALLE COUNTY STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2, LICENSE RENEWAL
APPLICATION REVIEW

Dear Mr. Nelson:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is conducting an environmental review of the effects of renewing the operating licenses for LaSalle County Station, Units 1 and 2 (LaSalle). LaSalle is located in LaSalle County, Illinois, approximately 75 miles southwest of Chicago, and 11 miles southeast of Ottawa, IL. LaSalle is operated by Exelon Generation Company, LLC (Exelon). The application for renewal was submitted by Exelon in a letter dated December 9, 2014, pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 54 (10 CFR Part 54). Under NRC regulations, the original operating license for a nuclear power plant is issued for up to 40 years, and the license may be renewed for up to 20 years.

The NRC has established that, as part of the staff's review of any nuclear power plant license renewal application, a site-specific Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) to its "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants", NUREG-1437, will be prepared under 10 CFR Part 51, the NRC's regulation that implements the National Environment Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA). In accordance with 36 CFR 800.8(c), the NRC will comply with the obligations required under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (NHPA) through its NEPA process. The final SEIS will include analyses of pertinent environmental issues, and in accordance with 36 CFR 800.8(c), analyses of potential impact to historic properties and other cultural resources.

In the context of NHPA, the NRC staff has determined that the area of potential effects (APE) for a license renewal action is the area at the power plant site and its immediate environs that may be impacted by post-license renewal land-disturbing operations or projected refurbishment activities associated with the proposed action. The APE may extend beyond the immediate environs in those instances where post-license renewal land-disturbing operations or projected refurbishment activities specifically related to license renewal may potentially have an effect on known or proposed historic sites. This determination is made irrespective of ownership or control of the lands of interest.

The LaSalle license renewal application is available at:
<http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal/applications/lasalle.html>

R. Nelson

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The NRC expects to publish the draft SEIS in February 2016. A copy of the document will be sent to you for your review and comment. After consideration of public comments received, the NRC will prepare a final SEIS, which is scheduled to be issued in August 2016. If you have any questions concerning the NRC's review of this license renewal application, please contact Russell Chazell, Environmental Scientist, at 301-415-5003 or by e-mail at Russell.Chazell@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

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

Docket Nos. 50-373 and 50-374

Enclosures:

1. Area Map, 50-mile radius
2. Area Map, 6-mile radius
3. LaSalle Site Area Map

cc: Listserv

R. Nelson

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Sincerely,

/RA/

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

Docket Nos. 50-373 and 50-374

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*concurring via email

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SUBJECT: LASALLE COUNTY STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2, LICENSE RENEWAL
APPLICATION REVIEW

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