



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Rock Island Field Office
1511 47th Avenue
Moline, Illinois 61265
Phone: (309) 757-5800 Fax: (309) 757-5807

FWS/RIFO
IN REPLY REFER
TO:

January 29, 2015

Ms. Cindy Bladey, Office of Administration
Mail Stop 3WFN-06-A44M
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

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RULES AND REGULATIONS
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Dear Ms. Bladey:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants Supplement 54 regarding Byron Station, Units 1 and 2 (Docket NRC-2013-0178). With respect to the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS), we have the following comments.

The SEIS includes an assessment of potential effects upon federally listed species that may occur in the project area. The assessment concludes that, because no suitable habitat is present, relicensing the Byron Nuclear Plant will have no effect on *Myotis septentrionalis* (Northern long-eared bat), *Myotis sodalis* (Indiana bat), *Lespedeza leptostachya* (prairie bush clover), *Platanthera leucophaea* (Eastern prairie fringed orchid), or *Dalea foliosa* (leafy prairie clover). We concur with your determination.

This precludes the need for further action on this project as required under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. If project plans change or portions of the proposed project were not evaluated, it is our recommendation that the changes be submitted for our review. These comments are provided in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq).

This letter provides comments under the authority of and in accordance with provisions of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.); and the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. Questions concerning this letter should be directed to Mr. Jon Duyvejonck (telephone 309.757-5800, ext. 207).

Sincerely,

Kraig McPeck
Field Supervisor

cc: ILDNR (Grider)

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