

April 3, 2015

Mr. Scott Hicks, Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
East Lansing Michigan Field Office
2651 Coolidge Road, Suite 101
East Lansing, MI 48823

SUBJECT: SUBMITTAL OF THE SUPPLEMENTAL BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT ON THE
NORTHERN LONG-EARED BAT FOR THE PROPOSED ENRICO FERMI
NUCLEAR POWER PLANT, UNIT 3

Dear Mr. Hicks:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), as a cooperating agency, completed the final environmental impact statement (EIS) for a combined license (COL) for the Enrico Fermi Nuclear Power Plant, Unit 3 in January 2013. NUREG-2105, "Environmental Impact Statement for Combined License (COL) for Enrico Fermi, Unit 3: Final Report." The EIS included analysis of pertinent environmental matters including those involving endangered or threatened species and impacts to fish and wildlife.

As part of the COL review, the NRC staff prepared a Biological Assessment (BA) that was submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) on March 30, 2012, and a Supplemental BA on the rufa red knot bird on February 20, 2015. In a letter dated June 8, 2012, the FWS concurred with the NRC's BA conclusions that no impact to threatened or endangered species is expected to result from the Fermi 3 project activities. In a subsequent letter dated March 23, 2015, the FWS concurred with the NRC's supplemental BA conclusions that Fermi 3 project activities are not likely to adversely affect the rufa red knot bird. Since the issuance of the February 20, 2015, supplemental BA on the rufa red knot bird, the northern long-eared bat was listed as a threatened species in April 2015. The NRC and the USACE have prepared a supplemental BA to analyze effects from the Fermi 3 project and cumulative impacts on the northern long-eared bat. The purpose of this letter is to provide a copy of the supplemental BA for your review.

The Fermi site is located on approximately 1,260 acres along the western shore of Lake Erie. The Fermi site currently has one operating boiling water reactor, Fermi Nuclear Power Reactor Unit 2 (Fermi 2), which has the capacity to generate 1,089 megawatts of electricity. In addition, there is one non-operating reactor, Enrico Fermi Nuclear Power Plant Unit 1, which has been defueled and is in the process of being decommissioned. DTE Energy Co. (DTE) proposes to construct one new nuclear unit adjacent to the existing facilities in areas that have been previously disturbed. Certain USACE regulated activities and structures associated with the project would occur in waters of the United States and adjacent wetlands.

To ensure compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) and to fulfill consultation requirements as required by the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (FWCA), the NRC and USACE prepared this Supplemental BA to support a joint consultation with the FWS in accordance with the ESA, as amended.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Mallecia Sutton, the NRC Environmental Project Manager, by telephone at 301-415-0673, or via e-mail to Mallecia.Sutton@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA AWilliamson for/

Jennifer L. Dixon-Herrity, Chief
Environmental Projects Branch
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

Docket No. 52-033

Enclosure:
As stated

cc: See next page

To ensure compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) and to fulfill consultation requirements as required by the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (FWCA), the NRC and USACE prepared this Supplemental BA to support a joint consultation with the FWS in accordance with the ESA, as amended.

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Enclosure:
As stated

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