



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

November 5, 1998

MEMORANDUM TO: Thomas H. Essig, Acting Chief
Generic Issues and Environmental Projects Branch
Division of Reactor Program Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: James H. Wilson, Senior Project Manager *James H. Wilson*
Generic Issues and Environmental Projects Branch
Division of Reactor Program Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION (ONS)
ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING MEETINGS TO SUPPORT
REVIEW OF THE LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION

On October 19, 1998, members of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff held public environmental scoping meetings in Clemson, South Carolina, in support of the staff's review of the ONS license renewal application. Two sessions were held to allow maximum public participation. The formal presentations made by NRC staff, Chris Grimes and Jim Wilson, were identical at each session. Chris Grimes' presentation is included as Attachment 1, Jim Wilson's presentation is included as Attachment 2 and a copy of the slides used in their presentations are included as Attachment 3. Attachment 4 is a list of attendees for both the 2:00 pm and 7:00 pm sessions.

The purpose of the meetings was to provide the public an opportunity to participate in the environmental scoping process by providing comments on any issues the public thought the NRC staff should consider in preparing a plant-specific supplement to NUREG-1437, "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Power Plants," for Oconee Nuclear Station. The staff presentations outlined the overall license renewal process and provided a detailed description of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review process; the requirements of NRC's regulations, as outlined in 10 CFR Part 51; and how and when these requirements would be met in the ONS license renewal review.

After the formal presentations given by NRC staff, Duke Energy officials were given the opportunity to address the audience and provide brief presentations focusing on the environmental report that was submitted as part of the license renewal application. Next, members of the public were invited to provide comments. Approximately 62 members of the public attended the two sessions with 8 persons making comments. Attendees included industry representatives, special interest groups, state and local government officials and university students. Oral comments were generally positive regarding ONS license renewal. Negative comments focused on the NRC limiting the scope of the environmental and safety reviews of the license renewal applications including embrittlement and high-level waste storage issues, and a claim that the NRC was unwilling to have a meaningful public participation process. Due to the length of the transcript, a copy is not attached; however, a

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copy of the transcript will be placed on the external NRC web page, will be available at the Local Public Document Room located at Oconee County Library, 501 West South Broad Street, Walhalla, South Carolina, and at the Commission's Public Document Room located in the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, D.C.

Attachments: As stated

Docket Nos. 50-269, 50-270, 50-287

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Attachments: As stated

Docket Nos. 50-269, 50-270, 50-287

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EIS Scoping Meeting Introduction

Slide 3: My name is Chris Grimes. I am the director of the NRC's License Renewal Project branch at the NRC headquarters in Rockville, Maryland. I will broadly describe the NRC's statutory responsibilities and the license renewal process. Following my general description of the NRC's license renewal process, Jim Wilson, who is the Senior Environmental Project Manager for the Oconee license renewal application, will describe the particular purpose of today's meeting — the scoping of environmental impact concerns related to the proposed renewal of the operating licenses for Duke Energy's Oconee plants.

Slide 4: The NRC's mission is to regulate the civilian use of nuclear materials to ensure adequate protection of public health and safety, to promote the common defense and security, and to protect the environment. The NRC's authority and responsibilities are derived from principally from the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, Energy Reorganization Act of 1974, as well as amendments to those acts and other legislation involving protection of the environment, security, waste and energy policies. The NRC's regulations are issued under Title 10 of the *United States Code of Federal Regulations*, which we will refer to as 10 CFR.

For commercial power reactors, the NRC's regulatory functions include licensing, inspection and enforcement. A reactor license is based on a set of established regulatory requirements to ensure that the design, construction and proposed operation are safe. NRC conducts routine inspections to ensure that the plant design and operation conform to the license requirements, and enforcement actions are taken in the event that the license requirements are not being satisfied.

Slide 5: The Atomic Energy Act and NRC regulations limit commercial power reactor licenses to 40 years, but also permit the renewal of such licenses for up to an additional 20-year period. The 40-year term was originally selected on the basis of economic and

antitrust considerations, not technical limitations, but once selected, the design of several system and structural components were engineered on the basis of an expected 40-year service life. The requirements for the initial 40-year license are contained in 10 CFR Part 50.

When the first reactors were constructed, major components were expected to last at least 40 years. Operating experience has demonstrated that the expectation was unrealistic for some major plant components such as the steam generator in a pressurized water reactor. However, research over the past decade has concluded that there are no technical limitations to plant life, since major components and structures can be replaced or refurbished. Thus, the plant life is determined primarily on economic factors which would estimate the extent of maintenance and refurbishment the plant systems, structures and components needed for any period of future plant operation.

To clearly identify the requirements needed for extended plant operation, the NRC developed 10 CFR Part 54 for license renewal. The rule, which was initially issued in 1991 and amended in 1995, provides that the basis on which a plant was originally licensed remains valid after 40 years and can be carried over into a 20-year period of extended operation. A new license can be granted upon a finding by the Commission that the licensee has adequately demonstrated that plausible aging effects will be adequately managed for a defined scope of passive, long-lived systems, structures and components. In addition, the rule requires that certain time-dependent design analyses be identified and evaluated.

The application submitted by Duke Energy for its Oconee plants is the second for license renewal. The first license renewal application for the two Calvert Cliffs units was received in April 1998. Although the licenses for both applicants do not expire until 2013 or later, many utilities are interested in license renewal today, to ensure that they clearly understand what conditions will be necessary for an extended license, to aid in their future financial planning. Many other reactor licensees are also interested in

license renewal because the licenses for about 40 of the 104 plants now operating in the United States will expire by 2015.

The decision on whether to renew a license to operate a power reactor rests primarily with the licensee. The utility must make a business decision as to whether the costs involved in continued operation can be economically justified. For some licensees, it may make more sense to shut the plant down at the end of its 40-year license than seek license renewal. Others, like Calvert Cliffs and Oconee, would like to continue plant operation. Because planning decisions need to be made, the NRC established a process for license renewal based on rigorous safety requirements that must be satisfied through the period of extended plant operation.

Slide 6: The licensing process for license renewal consists of parallel technical and environmental reviews which will be documented in a Safety Evaluation Report for the aging management aspects of the renewal application, as well as a Supplement to the Generic Environmental Impact Statement for the environmental impact review. The overall renewal process and decision on the renewal application is expected to take from two to three years. The aging management findings will be verified by NRC inspections, and reviewed by the NRC's Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, in accordance with the usual practices for issuance of a power reactor license.

The public can formally participate in the license renewal process in the same way that public participation was provided in the original licensing process. Toward that end, a Notice of Opportunity for a Hearing was published in the *Federal Register* on August 11, 1998 [62 FR 42885] which provides that any person whose interest may be affected by the license renewal, and who wishes to participate as a party in the proceeding, may file a written request for a hearing and petition to intervene in the formal legal proceedings. A petition to intervene in the Oconee license renewal proceeding was submitted by the Chattooga River Watershed Coalition.

Today's meeting is not a formal hearing, but a opportunity to gather information about potential concerns about the environmental impacts of this licensing action in accordance with the NRC's responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act, as Mr. Wilson will described in more detail. The NRC staff will continue to conduct informal public meetings to gather additional information concerning the safety and environmental aspects of the proposed license renewal and to provide means for interested members of the public to be further informed about the license renewal process.

The NRC's license renewal review will address a specific scope of aging management programs for passive systems, structures and components, time-dependent design analyses, and environmental impacts. There are other safety and environmental matters that are of interest and concern to the public. In particular, there are separate NRC programs that continue to address technical issues and public concerns related to the safety of nuclear waste disposal, spent-fuel storage, integrity of the reactor vessel and other components that are relied upon to prevent and mitigate the release of radioactive materials. The public can participate in these programs in similar ways depending on whether those efforts involve rule changes, amendments to the existing licenses, or other kinds of licensing; for example, the licensing of spent fuel storage containers.

The public can also participate in the rulemaking that establishes the regulatory requirements. That process was used to establish the requirements in Part 54 for renewal and Part 51 for the environmental impacts. Those rule changes are noticed in the Federal Register to provide the public with an opportunity to comment. Improvements in the rulemaking process now provide those notices and comment opportunities on the Internet.

In some cases, changes in the regulatory requirements result directly from legislation activities; for example, the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982, the Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act of 1987 and the Energy Policy Act of 1992.

All of these programs are important to the NRC's mission, but are managed as separate processes to ensure the most effective use of the NRC's resources and procedures, or as directed by the Congress.

Before Mr. Wilson describes the environmental scoping process, do you have any questions about any of the general information I have covered?

Prepared Remarks for Environmental Scoping Meeting
Related to Application by Duke Energy for Renewal of the
Operating Licenses for Oconee, Units 1, 2, and 3
October 19, 1998
Ramada Inn, Clemson, South Carolina

My name is Jim Wilson. I am the Environmental Project Manager for the Oconee license renewal project. I work in the Generic Issues and Environmental Projects Branch within the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation at NRC.

May I have Slide 7, please?

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7

I would like to briefly take you through the National Environmental Policy Act process, the so-called NEPA process, and then I will describe how that process translates into the regulations at the NRC and how those regulations apply to the Oconee license renewal application.

First of all, NEPA was enacted in 1969. It requires that all Federal agencies use a systematic approach to consider environmental impacts during their decision-making.

The NEPA process is one of the tools that we use in decision-making. Although it is not the only one that we as a Federal Agency use in making a decision on a proposed action, it is one of the significant ones.

It is a disclosure tool that involves the public. It invokes a process whereby information is gathered to enable Federal agencies to make better decisions and then documents that information and invites public participation to evaluate it.

The NEPA process results in a number of different kinds of documents -- chief among them are environmental impact statements (also called EIS's), which are rigorous and detailed exercises to evaluate the environmental impacts of a proposed action, and environmental assessments, which are more limited examinations of environmental impacts.

There are a couple of variations in the types of environmental impact statements that can be prepared, depending on the nature of the proposed action. These include generic environmental impact statements (also called G-E-I-Ss, or GEISs), which address generic impacts common to a number of similar proposed actions, and supplemental environmental impact statements, where an environmental impact statement has already been issued and then additional information or issues arise that need to be considered and disclosed in a supplement.

NEPA requires that an environmental impact statement be prepared for all major Federal actions. License renewal is considered to be a major Federal action. Therefore, we are going to go through the NEPA process and will prepare an environmental impact statement for license renewal.

May I have the next slide, please, Number 8?

As far as the NEPA process goes, there are certain steps that we at NRC are required to follow, and these steps are consistent for all EISs prepared by all Federal agencies for any proposed major Federal action.

The first step is the notice of intent, that is published in the Federal Register that lets the public know that we're going to issue an EIS.

We issued a Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Statement and Conduct Environmental Scoping Process in the Federal Register on September 21, 1998. That notice outlined what the process is going to be, invited participants to come and participate, announced this public meeting and designated a contact at the NRC for more information.

So, that was the first step in the NEPA process for the action now before us on license renewal for Oconee... the Notice of Intent.

The next step is the scoping process, which we are engaged in right now. Scoping, as Chip and Chris have already indicated, is the process whereby we identify issues that we are going to address in the environmental impact statement. The scoping period for Oconee began on September 21, it includes this public meeting, and ends on November 19, 1998.

We are soliciting input from State, local, other Federal agencies, and the public in order to determine the issues that will determine the size, shape, and complexity of the environmental impact statement that we are going to prepare. I will go into more detail regarding the scoping process and what we want to accomplish here today in another slide.

Regarding the environmental review that we will be conducting, the NEPA process conducted by all Federal agencies considers the same things. It looks at the impacts of the proposed action, it looks at alternatives to the proposed action and the impacts that could result from those alternatives, and it also looks at mitigation measures, things that can be done that would decrease the environmental impact of the proposed action.

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After an agency has conducted its environmental review, it issues what is called a draft environmental impact statement (or draft EIS) for public comment. All Federal agencies issue these draft EISs for public comment. In some instances, they conduct public meetings to gather comments. The minimum comment period required by NEPA is 45 days.

After the agency gathers the comments and evaluates them. It may change portions of the EIS based on those comments, and then it issues a final EIS.

So, this is the process that we're going to be going through for the environmental portion of a license renewal application review. I will go into more detail on how these steps will be implemented for Oconee in another slide.

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So, why are we all here today? Well, we're here to conduct a scoping meeting, and the next two slides lay out why we do scoping and the things that we, as a Federal agency, would like to get out of the scoping process.

We would like to define the proposed action. We would like to determine the scope of the EIS by getting issues and items from the public and from other agencies. During scoping, we would also identify and eliminate peripheral issues that will not be covered by the EIS or which may be outside the scope of the proposed action.

We also use the scoping process to identify other environmental assessments or environmental impact statements that may be in the process of being prepared by other Federal agencies in the area. One might like to think that all the Federal agencies know what the others are doing. Sometimes they don't, and this scoping process helps us work with other Federal agencies and other government agencies to cooperate on related actions and understand what everybody is doing.

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Some other things that we would like to get out of the scoping process is that we would identify other review and consultation processes.

In addition to the statute of NEPA that we need to meet, Federal agencies also have several dozen other environmental statutes to comply with, such as the Coastal Zone Management Act, the National Historic Preservation Act, the Endangered Species Act, and various other acts such as the Migratory Bird Act and the ever-popular Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act. Each of these Federal statutes has its own requirements for compliance. What we need to do, in our EIS, is to gather all the other consultation and review activities together so that they are all located in one document. This makes it easy for us to evaluate them in terms of the licensing action being contemplated and it also discloses what we are doing to the public.

Otherwise, we would have the endangered and threatened species report here and the coastal zone management report somewhere else. And without a systematic process to follow, it would be easy to miss something. So, we try to compile all of our other environmental regulatory activities into one document, the environmental impact statement, and scoping will help us work with those other Federal agencies to identify the necessary interactions.

The scoping process also indicates the schedule that we will be following in order to go through each of the activities in the NEPA process.

It also identifies cooperating agencies. Cooperating agencies are other Federal agencies who have specific jurisdiction in the same area and whose authorities overlap.

It also describes the environmental impact statement process. Later, I will be summarizing the EIS process and how we're going to prepare the EIS and the schedule for the different milestones in the environmental review associated with the application for license renewal at Oconee.

So, hopefully, today we are going to begin the process to that will enable us to address all the items on Slides 10 and 11.

Next slide, please.

12

This slide is a schematic flow chart of the activities in the NEPA environmental impact statement process just discussed, and as you can see, we are in the scoping process now. This week, we are also conducting the environmental review site visit at the Oconee site. We are in the process of developing requests for additional information that we wish to have included in the environmental report. In the middle of next year, we will issue a draft EIS for public comment. And then issue a final EIS in early 2000.

Next slide, please.

13

So, now we have gone through the requirements imposed by NEPA -- and again, NEPA, the National Environmental Policy Act, is a statute that all Federal agencies are required to comply with. NRC's implementing regulations for carrying out NEPA, our environmental protection regulations, are located in Part 51 of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations - what we call 10 CFR Part 51.

10 CFR 51 contains the requirements that determine how the NEPA process is implemented at NRC. It determines when we prepare an environmental assessment or when we must prepare an environmental impact statement. It outlines the contents of those environmental impact statements and the process that the NRC will use in order to meet the requirements of NEPA.

Early on in the license renewal process, it was recognized that the original environmental impact statements that were written for the plants before they received their operating licenses would need to be updated to address any refurbishment activities and an additional 20 years of operation.

So, the NRC undertook a rulemaking effort to modify Part 51 and to amend it to address license renewal environmental impacts. This was done separately from the rulemaking efforts on Part 54 to address the safety issues involved with license renewal.

As part of the rulemaking effort on Part 51, the staff developed a generic environmental impact statement, the G-E-I-S, or GEIS, which took a systematic look at the thousand hours of operating experience at all the nuclear power plants to help us identify the environmental impacts. The GEIS was published as NUREG-1437 and was issued as a final document in 1996, after having been issued previously for public comment. The GEIS formed the basis for the rule revisions in Part 51. There are copies of the GEIS outside in the lobby for your examination, and the GEIS is also available in the public document rooms, from the Government Printing Office, and on the Internet on the NRC license renewal home page.

The NRC worked with the states, the CEQ (the Council on Environmental Quality), the EPA (the Environmental Protection Agency), and a number of other groups and held a series of public workshops to develop the final GEIS. Based on the extensive interactions that took place, we decided that it was appropriate to limit the scope of what we were going to consider in the license renewal arena.

We identified and categorized impacts that were specific to license renewal, both the refurbishment period and also the additional 20 years of operation. We identified a total of 92 potential environmental impacts that could result from license renewal, and we evaluated their impacts in that GEIS.

Then we amended Part 51 to address the process that we would go through for license renewal applications.

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14

When we looked at the 92 issues identified in the GEIS, we found that some of those were generic - that is, were common to all plants, regardless of their design or where they were sited. We wanted to somehow separate those from the ones that would have to be evaluated on a plant-specific basis. We chose to designate these generic impacts as being in Category 1.

So, three criteria were developed, and if an impact met all three of those criteria, it would be considered a Category 1 impact and it would be addressed on a generic basis in the GEIS.

The first criterion for an impact being in Category 1 was that the impact had to apply to all plants or, for some issues to plants having a specific type of cooling system or other specified plant or site characteristic. The second criterion was a single significance level -- it couldn't be a small impact at one site and a large impact at another site, it had to be a small or a moderate or a large impact at all the sites. The third criterion was that mitigation measures for adverse impacts had been considered in the analysis. As part of the GEIS, we looked at mitigation measures, and if there were no other mitigation measures that could be taken on a plant-specific basis that were sufficiently beneficial to warrant implementation, it could be considered a Category 1 issue.

An example of a Category 1 issue is transmission line right-of-way impacts. We considered that those impacts apply to all plants. All plants have transmission line corridors; the significance level of the impact was the same at all the plants; and there were no further mitigation measures that could be taken on a plant-specific basis.

There were 68 Category 1 issues identified and assessed in the final GEIS. These 68 issues are identified in 10 CFR Part 51 as not requiring additional plant-specific analysis. Of the remaining 24 issues, 22 are considered Category 2 and will need to be addressed on a plant-specific basis.

Because the executive order on environmental justice had just been issued at the time the GEIS was issued and did the 10 CFR Part 51 rule revision, the staff concluded that it didn't have enough information to categorize it one way or the other. However, the final rule determined that environmental justice will be addressed on a plant-specific basis.

The other uncategorized issue was electro-magnetic frequency (EMF). Because conflicting research results existed and there were no clear conclusions regarding impact. Therefore, Commission decided to wait until there was clear scientific consensus on the issue before deciding on whether it is a Category 1 or 2 issue.

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The Category 1 and 2 issues are all codified in 10 CFR Part 51, copies of which are available out in the lobby. There is a table containing all 92 of them, Table B-1, along with their designation as either a Category 1 or Category 2 issue. Licensees or applicants for license renewal are required to address and evaluate the Category 2 issues, the plant-specific ones.

Applicants must inform the NRC whether there is any new and significant information regarding the Category 1 issues. If not, the generic conclusions from the GEIS may be adopted. During the staff's review, we will evaluate the licensee's program new and significant information.

The NRC will use the Environmental Standard Review Plan (ESRP), NUREG-1555, Supplement 1, to perform its review of an applicant's environmental report that is a required part of an application for license renewal. The ESRP provides guidance to the staff on how to conduct its review.

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Okay. So, now we have summarized the requirements of NEPA as contained in Part 51. Now we will focus on the proposed action being considered. Specifically, NRC's review of the application by Duke Energy for renewal of the operating licenses for the 3 units at Oconee.

As you probably know, the application was received on July 7, 1998. We issued separate Federal Register notices identifying the receipt of the application and then the acceptance of the application to begin the review.

The Oconee license renewal application consists of 4 volumes. The first three volumes are the safety volumes containing information required to meet Part 54 of the regulations, and the 4th volume is the environmental report, which is what we're here for today.

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17

As far as what the NRC is going to do in its review, we're going to issue a supplement to the GEIS, that is plant-specific to Oconee. That supplement will address the Category 1 issues, the Category 2 issues, and any new and significant information that may be identified throughout the review process.

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18

Our review will also examine alternatives. As part of the NEPA process, we are required to look at alternatives. The alternative that we are currently considering is the no-action alternative, which would mean shutting down and decommissioning the plant upon expiration of the operating license. As part of that alternative, to replace the generating capacity, we would look at the environmental impacts of alternative generating sources.

I would like to note here that, although the GEIS did consider a wide range of alternatives, evaluating them and their impacts, no conclusions regarding the acceptability or unacceptability of alternatives was reached. Therefore, the alternatives issue must be examined during the review of each plant-specific license renewal application.

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19

Remember, as part of the scoping process, one of the things that we need to do is identify other environmental assessments or environmental impact statements that are being developed.

At this time, we're not aware of any, but the scoping process should bring those to light if there are any going on that we don't know about.

Regarding the consultation process with other government agencies -- we are working with other Federal agencies to address threatened and endangered species issues. We are talking with the State on the Historic Preservation Act and on water and wildlife resources. So, we're working with other agencies to complete the other review requirements that are appropriate.

We have contracted with the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory to support us on this effort. We have a team out at the site this week to conduct the environmental review site visit. We will be out, walking around the site, reviewing the monitoring programs, reviewing documentation, talking to Duke Energy about the environmental issues associated with their license renewal application and consulting with the State resource agencies.

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As far as the decision that the Commission needs to make, the Oconee-specific supplement to the GEIS will contain the NRC staff's recommendation regarding the environmental acceptability of the license renewal action. However, the environmental review is just one piece of the overall process of reaching a decision whether to authorize license renewal.

I have described why we're here and how we're going to do our review. Now, I will tell you how we are going to conduct our review.

Next slide, Number 21.

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21

So, the staff has already started its review of Duke Energy's Oconee license renewal application.

As far as the environmental review schedule goes, the notice of intent was issued September 21, 1998. We are conducting the scoping meeting today. The written comment period to provide us with written scoping issues closes November 19th.

At the conclusion of the scoping process, the NRC will issue a scoping summary report which will be a summary of the scoping activities, include a description of this meeting, and also a list of all of the issues that the public has identified throughout the scoping period.

The draft supplement to the generic environmental impact statement is scheduled for issuance in June 1999. We will issue that draft document for public comment for a period of 75 days and we will conduct a transcribed public meeting, similar to this one today, where we will gather comments from the public. We will accept oral comments at the meeting, like we will today. We will also accept written comments, and then we will go back and review them and modify the EIS if we need to.

In the final Oconee-specific supplement to the GEIS, scheduled for February 2000, we will identify the public comments that were received on the draft and document how they were dispositioned. So, the final document will contain a listing of comments and where they are addressed in the supplement to the GEIS, so that they won't be lost in the process.

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22

Public participation is key to the NEPA process. So, we are looking for comments from you all today. The NEPA process provides a number of opportunities for the public to participate in the environmental review for license renewal at Oconee. There is the meeting today; there is opportunity to provide written comments by November 19; then there is also the opportunity to provide written or oral comments following the issuance of the draft supplement to the GEIS.

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23

I have been designated as the point of contact within NRC for the environmental portion of the license renewal review.

There are a number of ways that you can provide your comments to me -- orally over the telephone, via e-mail, or via written mail. There is a point of contact sheet out on the table in the lobby containing information on my e-mail and street address and phone number, so feel free to take that with you and then contact me if you have any questions about the staff's review or if you wish to provide any comments.

We have a number of large documents out in the lobby for you to examine and a number of smaller handouts that you may wish to take with you.

All of the documents related to Duke Energy's application for license renewal, including the application, the GEIS, any future meeting summaries, meeting notices, etcetera, will all be placed in the public document room and the local public document room up in Walhalla.

Slides 24 and 25, please.

24, 25

Slides 24 and 25 have been provided in your slide package to give you an idea of the comprehensiveness of the scope and the range of issues that will be considered during the staff's review and will be included in the Oconee-specific supplement to the GEIS for license renewal.

And now I would like to go back to the flow chart, Slide 6 in your package.

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In summary, today's meeting is part of the scoping process associated with the the staff's review of the environmental portion of Duke Energy's application for renewal of the operating licenses for Oconee, Units 1, 2, and 3. It is a significant part of the overall license renewal process.

It is important that you participate. We want your participation. We encourage your participation. I think it makes a better process if you do participate, and remember, the Oconee license renewal process has just begun. This is really the first step in many to get to the final end point represented by a decision on license renewal.

I would like to thank you for your attention.

Now I would like to offer you the opportunity to ask any clarifying questions that you might have about the material that I have presented.

Oconee Environmental Scoping Meeting

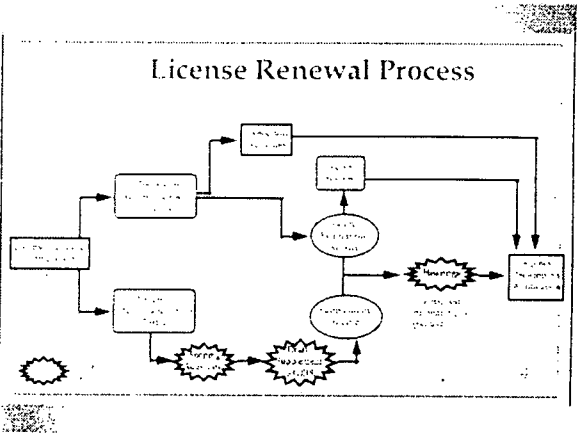

Environmental Scoping Meeting
Oconee Nuclear Station
License Renewal Application
October 19, 1998

Scoping Meeting Agenda
October 19, 1998

- Welcome and overview of meeting - 10 minutes (F.X. Cameron)
- Overview of license renewal process - 15 minutes (C.I. Grimes)
- Overview of environmental review process 30 minutes (J.H. Wilson)
- Public comment - 2 hours (F.X. Cameron)

Presentation

- Statutory background
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process
- License renewal environmental process
- Oconee license renewal review
- Future



See last page for larger flow chart

NRC Mission

- NRC governed by:
 - Atomic Energy Act
 - Energy Reorganization Act
 - National Environmental Policy Act
 - Other Statutes
- Mission statement:
 - Health and safety protection
 - Environmental protection
 - Common defense and security

What Is License Renewal?

- Atomic Energy Act
 - 40 year license to operate
 - Allows for renewal
- License Renewal (10 CFR Part 54)
 - Operate up to 20 years beyond original license term
 - NRC review
 - Public participation
 - Commission decision

Oconee Environmental Scoping Meeting

NEPA Process

- NEPA requires Federal agencies to use a systematic approach to consider environmental impacts
- Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) required for major federal actions
- License renewal considered major federal action

NEPA Process

- Notice of Intent- notifies public of preparation of EIS
- Scoping Process- identifies scope of EIS and solicits public input
- Review - evaluates environmental impacts, alternatives, mitigation measures

NEPA Process

- Issue draft EIS for public comment
- Issue final EIS

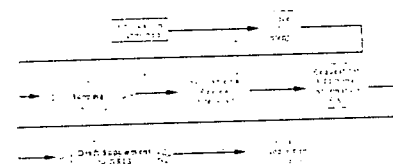
Purpose of Scoping

- Define the proposed action
- Determine the scope of the EIS
- Identify and eliminate peripheral issues
- Identify other related Environmental Assessments (EAs) or EISs

Purpose of Scoping

- Identify other review or consultation process
- Indicate schedule
- Identify cooperating agencies
- Describe EIS preparation

Environmental License Renewal Process



See last page for larger flow chart

Oconee Environmental Scoping Meeting

Part 51 License Renewal Process

- NRC rules governing environmental protection found in 10 CFR Part 51
- Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS), NUREG-1437, formed basis for 1996 rule revision
- GEIS identified and categorized impacts of license renewal; limited scope of review
- GEIS categorized 92 impacts

Part 51 License Renewal Process

Continued

- Category 1 impacts met criteria and considered generic (68 impacts)
- Category 2 impacts considered plant-specific (22 impacts)
- 2 impacts unassigned

Part 51 License Renewal Process

Continued

- Applicant for license renewal must evaluate and present impacts in environmental report (ER)
- Category 2 issues plus new and significant information
- NRC will use Environmental Standard Review Plan (ESRP), NUREG-1555, Supplement 1

Oconee Application

- Application received on July 7, 1998
- Federal Register Notice regarding application receipt and acceptance
- Application consists of safety and environmental portions

NRC Review

- Proposed Action- license renewal for 20 years for all three units of the Oconee nuclear power plant
- Scope of supplement to GEIS
 - Category 1 issues
 - Category 2 issues
 - New and significant information

NRC Review

Continued

- Consideration of Alternatives
 - "No action" alternative- shut down and decommission plant at end of operation
 - Alternative electric generation sources

Oconee Environmental Scoping Meeting

NRC Review

Continued

- Identification of other related environmental assessments or impact statements
- Consultation process with other government agencies
- Pacific Northwest National Laboratory contracted to support NRC

Oconee Review

- Supplement to GEIS to contain NRC staff's recommendation regarding the environmental acceptability of the license renewal action

Schedule

- Notice of Intent- September 21, 1998
- Scoping comment period ends November 19, 1998
- Draft supplement to GEIS- scheduled for June 1999
- Final supplement to GEIS- scheduled for February 2000

Public Participation in Environmental Review

- Public participation at several points:
 - Public invited to participate in scoping (this meeting and written comments)
 - Public invited to comment on draft supplement to the GEIS when available

Point of Contact

- Agency point of contact: Mr. Jim Wilson
- Documents located at Public Document Room and Local Public Document Room
- Provide comments: by mail, in person, or e-mail

Environmental Impact Headings

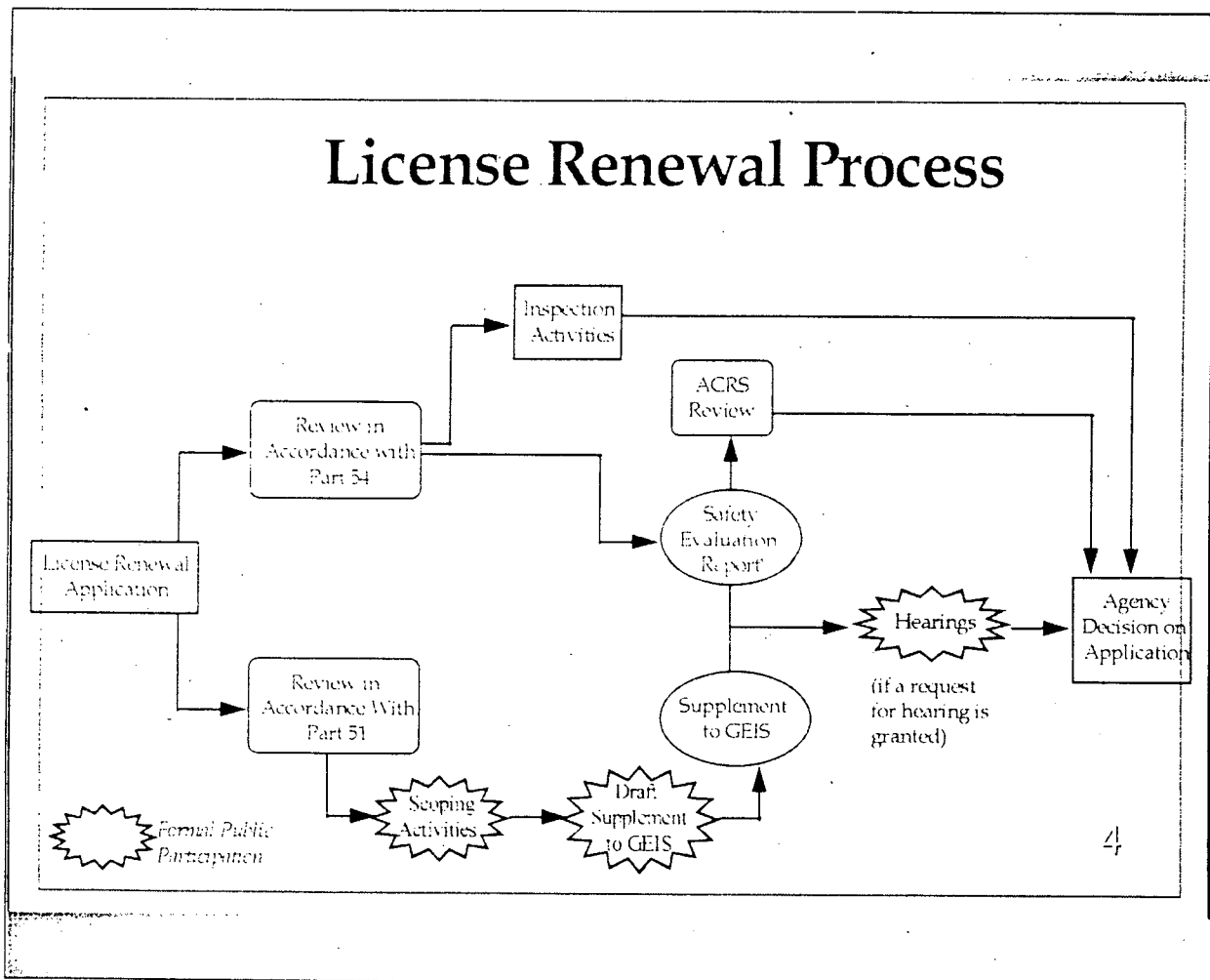
- Surface water quality, hydrology, and use
- Aquatic ecology
- Ground-water use and quality
- Threatened or endangered species
- Air quality
- Land Use

Oconee Environmental Scoping Meeting

Environmental Impact Headings
Continued

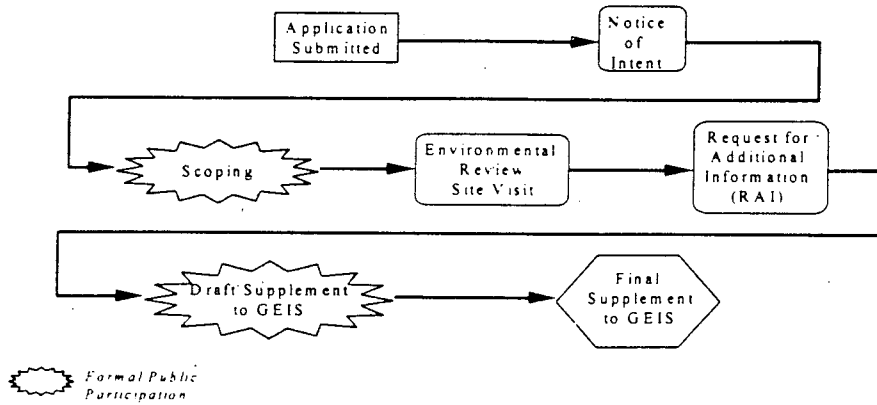
- Human health
- Socioeconomics
- Postulated accidents
- Uranium fuel cycle and waste management
- Decommissioning
- Environmental justice

25



Oconee Environmental Scoping Meeting

Environmental License Renewal Process



Oconee Environmental Scoping Meeting

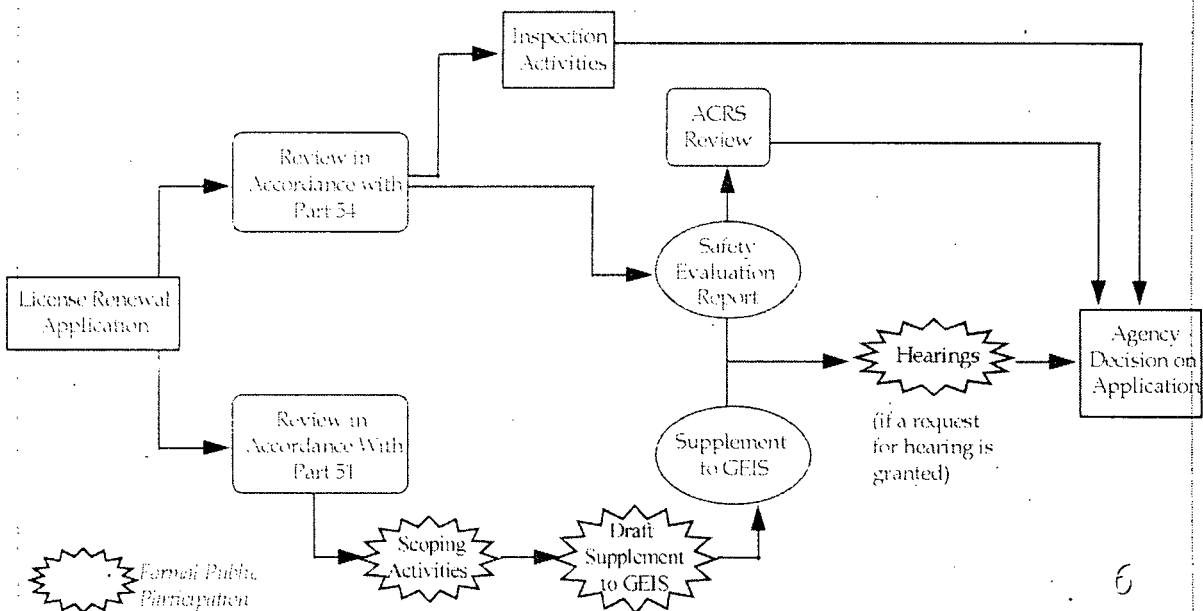
Environmental Impact Headings

Continued

- Human health
- Socioeconomics
- Postulated accidents
- Uranium fuel cycle and waste management
- Decommissioning
- Environmental justice

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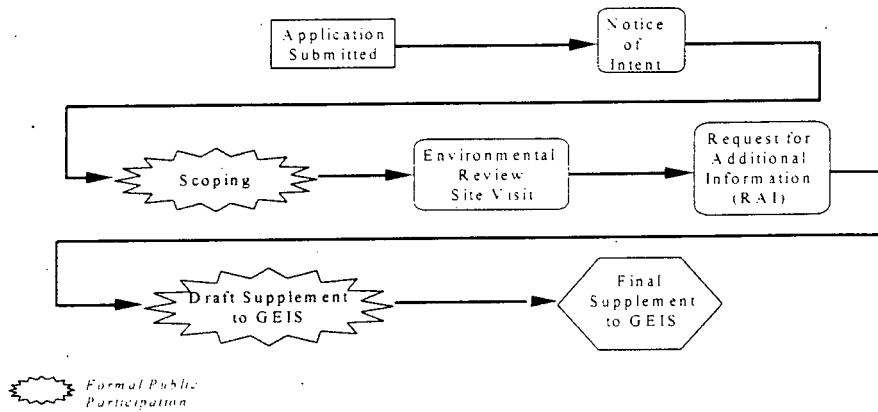
License Renewal Process



6

Oconee Environmental Scoping Meeting

Environmental License Renewal Process



2 PM Attendees

1. Angelina Howard *SPEAKER
NEI
2. Dorothy Vander Weele
12 Skipper Ln.
Salem, S.C. 29676
Folks
3. Virgil R. Autry
2600 Bull St.
Columbia, S.C. 29201
4. Mitchell Ross
700 Unnerle Blvd.
Juno Beach, Florida 33408
FPL
5. Henry Porter
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201
SC Department of Health and Env
Control Division of Radioactive Work Management
6. Buck Vander Weele *SPEAKER
12 Skipper land
Salem, SC 29676
FOLKS
7. Micheal Gandy
260 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201
SCDHEC
8. Ben Rodill
14722 Boyces Cove Drive
Virginia Power
9. William N. Ketsler
P.O. Box 469
Gilbert, SC 29054
NUMIC Corp. ASME Sec XI

10. Wayne Jenk
1220 Wild Asalea Point
Seneca, SC 29672
11. Marge Spearman
104
Clemson, SC
12. Jim Davis
5137 Weatherford Drive
Birminham, AL 35242
Southern Nuclear
13. Bill Keisler
NUMIC
14. Ann Souders
4 Beacon Drive
Salem, SC 29676
15. Bill Sounders *Comment
4 Beacon Drive
Salem, SC 29676
16. Chris Kempton
135 Oakwood Street
Six Mile, SC 29682
Sierra Club, SC Forest Watch
17. James Conroy
331 Northwood Drive
Wahalla, SC 29691
18. Margaret Thompson
P.O. Box 498
Pendleton, SC 29670
Jocassee Gorges Coalition
19. Henry Porter
20. Dana Baughman
Clemson University student

21. David Wehmeyer *SPEAKER
1 Frigate Drive
Salem, SC 29676

22. Francis Plotnik *COMMENT-send off-site spent fuel storage info to her
211 Bluebird Lane
Central, SC 29630

NRC

1. Jim Wilson
2. Steve Hoffman
3. Barry Zaclman
4. Tom Essig
5. Kim Campbell
6. Bob Weisman
7. Joe Sebrosky
8. Rob Jolly
9. Cynthia Sochor
10. Ralph Artchitzel
11. Claudia Criag
12. Roger Hannah
13. Chris Grimes
14. Chip Cameron

DUKE

1. Steve Cromer
2. Andrea Beam
3. Geuyna Savage
4. Paul Newton
5. Anne Cottingham
6. David Repka
7. Sandra Magee
8. Robert Gill
9. Bryant Kenney
10. Bill Miller
11. Bob Van Namen
12. Mary Bond
13. Lisa Vaughn
14. John Geir Jr.
15. Debra Ramsey
16. W.G. Rixon
17. Mike Tuckman *Speaker
18. Carrie Todd *Speaker

PNNL

1. Rebekah Harty
2. Van Ramsdell
3. Susan Blanton
4. Mike Scott
5. Lance Vail
6. Paul Hendrickson
7. Charlie Brandt
8. Eva Hickey
9. Duane Neitzel
10. Mike Sackschewsky
11. Paul Nickens

7:00 Attendees

1. Jeffrey Hekking
102 Hominey Hills
Six Mile, SC 29682
Duke employee
2. Kim Ford
Clemson University
3. W.S. Lesan
P.O. Box 66
Long Creek, SC 29658
CRWC
4. Buzz Williams *SPEAKER
Chattanooga River Watershed Coaition
P.O. Box 2006
Clayton, GA 30525
5. John Shannon Keys
250 Elm Street
Clemson, SC 29631
Clemson University student
6. Judith Strickland
P.O. Box 1030
North, SC 29112
7. Kitsiri Kaewpipat
743 Issaqueena Trail #14
Central, SC 29630

Clemson student

8. Pat Suwanathada
743 Issaqueena Trail #23
Central, SC 29630
Clemson University student
9. Butch Clay *Comment
P.O. Box 657
Westminster, SC 29693
Chattooga River Watershed Coalition
10. Allison Swords
11. Sarah Lynch
P.O. Box 6938
Clemson, SC 29632
Clemson student
12. Amy Ringberg
4 Grouse Way
Greenville, SC 29617
Clemson student
13. Demarrias Rock
119 Ragin Street
Santee, SC 29142
Clemson student
14. Emily Figart
P.O. Box 7309
Cemson, SC 29632
15. Lindsey Widerman
P.O. Box 8362
Clemson, SC 29632
16. Sharon Davis
17. Shelton Steele
P.O. Box 3928
Clemson, SC 29632
18. Bartlee Akers
155 Anderson Highway 932

Clemson, SC 29631

19. Susan Parker
155 Anderson Highway
Clemson, SC 29631
20. Kristin Fulkerson
21. M. Grabarczyk
404 E. Springwood Drive
Seneca, SC 29672
22. Lindsay Knudsen
100 Regency Drive #100
Central, SC 29630
Clemson student
23. Krista Shurtz
512 Evans Street
Anderson, SC 29621
Clemson student
24. Kip Walker
P.O. Box 7600
Clemson, SC 29632-7600
25. Wilson Glesslie
P.O. Box 2814
Clemson, SC
Clemson student
26. Heather Land
2207 Wade Hampton Blvd.
Apt. D202
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27. Amy Richards
P.O. Box 9625
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student
28. Chris Von Ing
Clemson
29. William Summerville

Clemson

30. Christopher Crotwell
 31. Jennifer Wethington
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Clemson
 32. Jenifer Maddox
103 Bethany Drive
Pelzer, SC 29669
 33. Catherine Scuggs
Clemson
 34. Tim DeVol
342 Computer Ct
Anderson, SC 29625
 35. Lance Howard *Comment?
 36. Janette Hamilton
118 Karen Drive
 37. Christine Veith
 38. Greg Solarek
 39. Carl Cox
Clemson University
 40. Angie Howard *SPEAKER
- NRC
1. Jim Wilson
 2. Steve Hoffman
 3. Barry Zaclman
 4. Tom Essig
 5. Kim Campbell
 6. Bob Weisman
 7. Joe Sebrosky
 8. Rob Jolly
 9. Cynthia Sochor
 10. Ralph Artchitzel
 11. Claudia Criag

12. Roger Hannah
13. Chris Grimes
14. Chip Cameron

DUKE

1. Paul Colaianni
2. Ed Bunfield
3. Lee Keller
4. Jeff Thomas
5. Rounette Nader
6. Steve Nader
7. Michael Semmier
8. D.E.M. Sullivan
9. Bill Miller
10. Greg Robinson
11. Brant Elrod
12. William McCollum
13. Robert Gill
14. Bryant Kenney
15. Mike Tuckman *Speaker
16. Carrie Todd *Speaker

PNNL

1. Rebekah Harty
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3. Susan Blanton
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7. Charlie Brandt
8. Eva Hickey
9. Duane Neitzel
10. Mike Sackschewsky
11. Paul Nickens

Oconee Nuclear Station (License Renewal)

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Atlanta Federal Center
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Bureau of Land and Waste Management
Department of Health and
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Columbia, South Carolina 29201-1708

County Supervisor of Oconee County
Walhalla, South Carolina 29621

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Mr. J. E. Burchfield
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Oconee Nuclear Site
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Ms. Karen E. Long
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Mr. Richard M. Fry, Director
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North Carolina Department of
Environment, Health, and
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