



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

176 Croghan Spur Road, Suite 200
Charleston, South Carolina 29407



72-03
72-60

September 3, 2015

*Mailed letter
to FWS
August 10, 2015*

Ms. Michele Sampson
U.S. Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop T-4B34
Washington, DC 20555

Re: H. B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant, Decommissioning Funding Plan, Dockets 72-3 and 72-60, Darlington County, South Carolina
FWS Log No. 2015-I-0630

Dear Ms. Sampson:

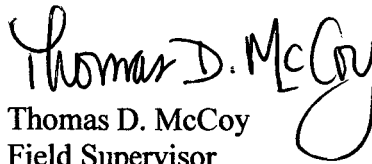
The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has reviewed your letter regarding the decommissioning funding plan (DFP) submitted by Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, for the H. B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant, Unit 2 Independent Fuel Storage Installations (ISFSI) located in Hartsville, South Carolina. Pursuant to section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA), the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is requesting consultation regarding potential impacts implementation of the DFP may have upon federally protected species.

Approval of the DFP will not authorize changes to licensed operations or maintenance activities, changes in the types, characteristics, or quantities of radiological or non-radiological effluents released into the environment from the ISFSI, or result in the creation of any solid waste. Further, approval of the DFP will not authorize any construction activity, facility modification, or any other land-disturbing activity. Any future NRC approval of site disturbing remediation activities requested or conducted by Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, would require additional environmental reviews. As such, the NRC has determined that the proposed implementation of the DFP is not likely to adversely affect federally protected threatened or endangered species.

Upon review of the information submitted, the Service concurs with your determination that this event is not likely to adversely affect federally protected threatened or endangered species. Please note that obligations under the ESA must be reconsidered if: (1) new information reveals impacts of this identified action may affect any listed species or critical habitat in a manner not previously considered; (2) this action is subsequently modified in a manner which was not considered in this assessment; or (3) a new species is listed or critical habitat is designated that may be affected by the identified action.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mark Caldwell at (843) 727-4707, ext. 215 and reference FWS Log No. 2015-I-0630.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Thomas D. McCoy in black ink.

Thomas D. McCoy
Field Supervisor

TDM/MAC