



United States Department of the Interior

72-45

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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



September 4, 2015

*Mailed letter  
to FWS  
August 10, 2015*

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

Re: Catawba Nuclear Station, Decommissioning Funding Plan, York County, South Carolina  
FWS Log No. 2015-I-0632

Dear Ms. Sampson:

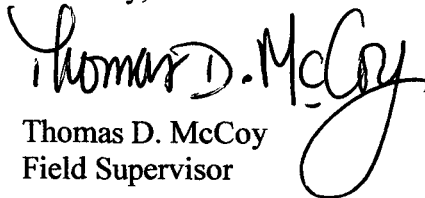
The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has reviewed your letter regarding the decommissioning funding plan (DFP) submitted by Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, for the Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI) located at the Catawba Nuclear Station in York County, South Carolina. Pursuant to 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-0632.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas D. McCoy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping flourish at the end of the word "McCoy".

Thomas D. McCoy  
Field Supervisor

TDM/MAC