



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

September 20, 2016

Mr. Tom Melius  
Regional Director  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Midwest Region (Region 3)  
5600 American Blvd. West, Suite 990  
Bloomington, MN 55437-1458

SUBJECT: AVAILABILITY OF THE FINAL SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR THE PROPOSED LICENSE RENEWAL OF FERMI 2

Dear Mr. Melius:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has completed the final Supplement 56 to NUREG-1437, "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants" (SEIS), regarding the license renewal of Fermi 2 in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA). The final SEIS is available on the NRC website at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/nuregs/staff/sr1437/supplement56/>.

As part of its NEPA review, the NRC considered effects to species and habitats protected under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA). The NRC staff determined that the proposed license renewal would have no effect on the Karner blue butterfly (*Lycaeides melissa samuelis*), northern riffleshell (*Epioblasma torulosa rangiana*), snuffbox mussel (*Epioblasma triquetra*), and the rayed bean (*Villosa fabalis*) or these species' critical habitats, as applicable. In addition, the NRC staff determined that the proposed license renewal "may effect, but is not likely to adversely affect" the red knot (*Calidris canutus*), piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*), Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalists*), eastern prairie fringed orchid (*Platanthera leucophaea*), and the northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*). The NRC staff documented its supporting analysis in Sections 3.8, 4.8, and Appendix C of the SEIS. In a letter dated October 28, 2015, the NRC staff submitted a copy of the draft SEIS to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) for its review. The FWS concurred with the NRC staff's "no effect" and "may effect, but not likely to adversely effect" determinations in a letter dated December 7, 2015. FWS also noted in its letter that its concurrence on the NRC staff's "no effect" determination is not required. In preparing the final SEIS, the NRC staff did not identify any new information that would change the NRC staff's findings of "no effect," "may effect, but is not likely to adversely affect," or that would otherwise require initiation of ESA section 7 consultation for the nine species described above.

Since publishing the draft SEIS, NRC staff updated the species list to reflect the proposed listing of the eastern massasauga (*Sistrurus catenatus*) as a threatened species. As noted in its December 7, 2015 letter, FWS concurrence on the NRC staff's "no effect" determination is not required. Accordingly, the NRC considers its obligations under ESA section 7 for the proposed license renewal of Fermi 2 to be fulfilled.

T. Melius

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I look forward to future coordination with your offices to ensure the continued protection of Federally listed species and designated critical habitats at Fermi 2 and other NRC-licensed operating nuclear plants in your respective regions. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Ms. Michelle Moser, Biologist, at 301-415-6509 or by e-mail at [Michelle.Moser@nrc.gov](mailto:Michelle.Moser@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

***/RA/***

Kevin T. Folk, Acting Chief  
Environmental Review and Project Branch  
Division of License Renewal  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-341



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

September 20, 2016

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

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Kevin T. Folk, Acting Chief  
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Division of License Renewal  
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\*concurring via email

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**OFFICIAL RECORD COPY**

Letter to T. Melius and S. Hicks from K. Folk dated September 20, 2016

SUBJECT: AVAILABILITY OF THE FINAL SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT  
STATEMENT FOR THE PROPOSED LICENSE RENEWAL OF FERMI 2

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