

April 20, 2017

Mr. Bill Pearson
Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Alabama Ecological Services Field Office
1208-B Main Street
Daphne, AL 36526

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE SCOPING PROCESS AND A LIST OF PROTECTED SPECIES WITHIN THE AREA UNDER EVALUATION FOR THE PROPOSED CLINCH RIVER NUCLEAR SITE EARLY SITE PERMIT APPLICATION REVIEW

Dear Mr. Pearson:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff is reviewing an application submitted by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) for an Early Site Permit (ESP) for a new nuclear power plant site, which is located on the northern bank of the Clinch River Nuclear (CRN) Site arm of the Watts Bar Reservoir in Oak Ridge, Roane County, Tennessee. As part of the review of this ESP application, the NRC staff is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) as required by Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 51, the NRC's regulations that implement the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended. The EIS will include an analysis of pertinent environmental matters, including Federally protected species and habitats. This letter is to acquire information in accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA).

TVA submitted the application for an ESP on May 12, 2016, pursuant to the NRC requirements in 10 CFR Part 52. A notice for acceptance for docketing of the application for the ESP was published in the Federal Register on January 12, 2017 (82 FR 3812). It is available through the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), which can be found at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. The application or environmental report (ER) portion of the application is listed under ADAMS Accession No. ML16144A145. The CRN Site ESP application is also available on the Internet at <https://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactors/esp/clinch-river.html>.

The CRN site is located in Roane County, Tennessee, approximately 25 miles west-southwest of downtown Knoxville on the north shore of the Clinch River arm of the Watts Bar Reservoir. The NRC's proposed action for this review is to issue an ESP that grants approval of a site that could be used for the future construction and operation of two or more small modular reactors (SMRs). SMRs are nuclear power plants that are smaller in size (300 MWe or less) than current generation baseload plants (1,000 MWe or higher). In its review, the NRC staff will evaluate the environmental impacts of construction and operation and will also consider alternatives, including alternative sites. The ESP review provides the opportunity for early resolution of many site safety and environmental issues.

TVA has identified three alternative sites that will be evaluated in the EIS. Two alternative sites are located in Roane County in Tennessee along the Clinch River. The relevant U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Ecological Services Field Office in Tennessee will be contacted regarding the

CRN Site and the two alternative sites in that State. The third alternative site is the Redstone Arsenal located in Madison County near Huntsville, Alabama, along the Tennessee River (Environmental Report Figures 9.3-5 and 9.3-8).

To support the preparation of the NRC EIS on the proposed action, the NRC staff requests your office provide information on Federally listed threatened or endangered species, species proposed or which are candidates for listing, and designated or proposed critical habitat, that are of concern to your agency, that are on or near the Redstone Arsenal site or along the potential transmission line corridor and potential water intake and discharge corridors depicted in Figure 9.3-8. In addition, please provide any comments, concerns, or information you consider appropriate under the provisions of the ESA.

The NRC staff plans to hold two public NEPA scoping meetings on May 15, 2017, at the Pollard Technology Conference Center, 210 Badger Avenue, Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830. The first meeting will convene at 2:00 p.m., and will continue until approximately 4:00 p.m. The second meeting will convene at 7:00 p.m., with a repetition of the overview portions of the first meeting and will continue until approximately 9:00 p.m. The meetings will be preceded by an open house from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m., and 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., respectively, during which members of the public may meet and talk with NRC staff members on an informal basis. In addition, during the week of May 15, 2017, the NRC plans to conduct a site audit to discuss with the applicant the detailed information that is the basis for the preparation of the ER, to perform a walk down of the site and its environs, and to review documentation. You and your staff are invited to attend both the public meetings and the site audit.

Please provide any information, comments, or concerns you feel are appropriate on the scope of the proposed action during the scoping comment period, which ends on June 12, 2017. Comments should be submitted either by mail to the Chief, Rules and Directives Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Mail Stop T-6D59, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001 or by e-mail to ClinchRiverESPEIS@nrc.gov. When the NRC staff completes the draft EIS on the proposed action, the staff plans to send the draft EIS to your office for comment. The anticipated publication date for the draft EIS is June, 2018.

If you have any questions concerning the NRC staff's environmental review of this ESP application, or wish to make arrangements to attend the upcoming site audit, please contact Ms. Patricia Vokoun, Environmental Project Manager at 301-415-3470 or by e-mail at Patricia.Vokoun@nrc.gov. In her absence, please contact Ms. Tamsen Dozier at 301-415-2272 or by email at Tamsen.Dozier@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Allen H. Fetter, Acting Branch Chief
Licensing Branch 3
Division of New Reactor Licensing Office of
New Reactors

Docket No: 52-047

Enclosures: As stated

cc w/o enclosure: See next page

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE SCOPING PROCESS AND A LIST OF PROTECTED SPECIES WITHIN THE AREA UNDER EVALUATION FOR THE PROPOSED CLINCH RIVER NUCLEAR SITE EARLY SITE PERMIT APPLICATION REVIEW

Dated:

DISTRIBUTION:

PUBLIC

Reading File

TDozier, NRO

AFetter, NRO

JDonoghue, NRO

MSutton, NRO

SGreen, NRO

PDoub, NRO

KErwin, NRO

RidsNroDsea

RidsOgcMailCenter

RidsOpaMail

RidsNroDnrl

BMcDowell, PNNL (bruce.mcdowell@pnl.gov)

KLeigh, PNNL (Kimberly.leigh@pnl.gov)

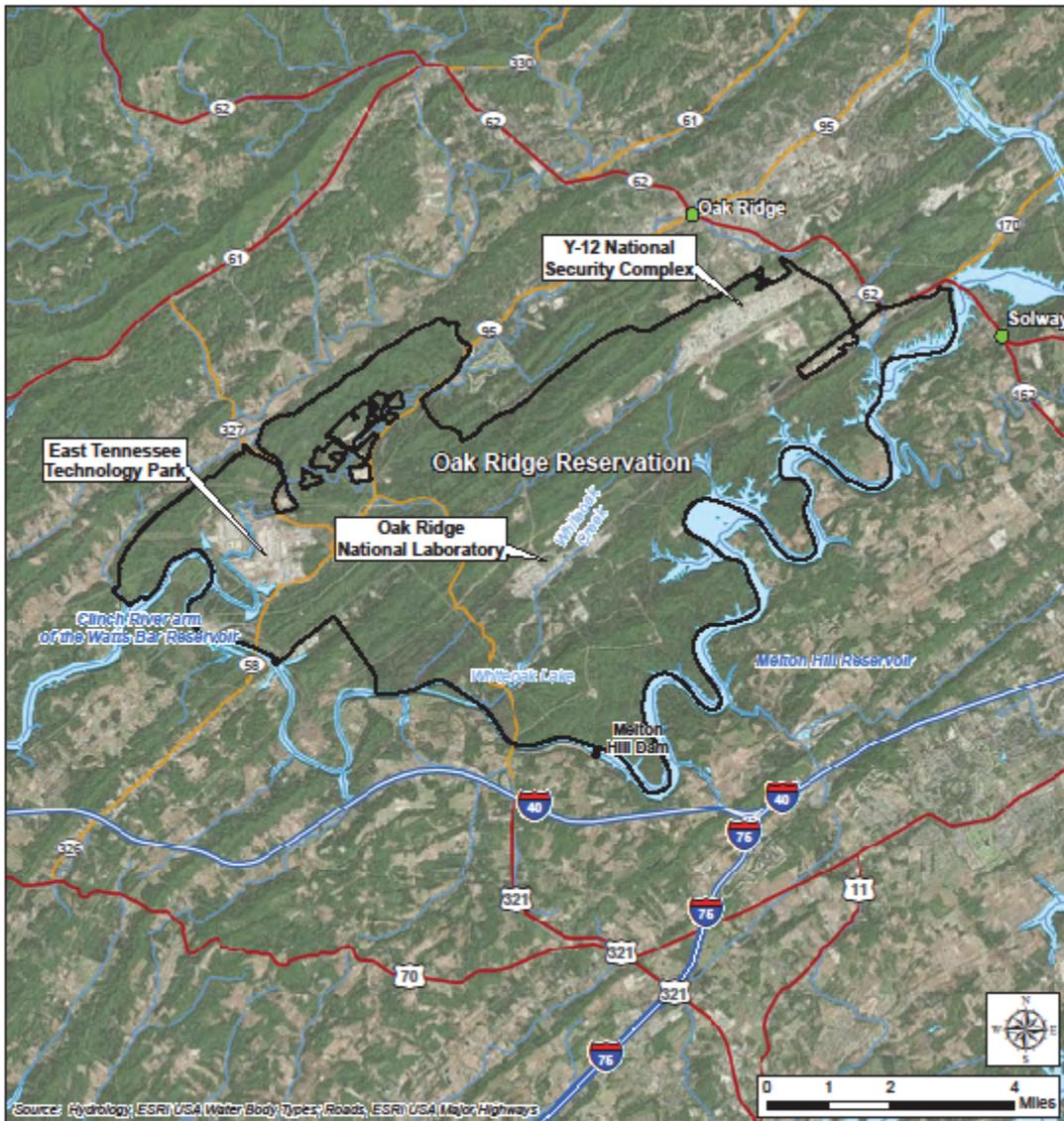
MMcintosh, USACE (mark.m.mcintosh@usace.army.mil)

ADAMS Accession No.: ML17088A264

OFFICE	PM:LB3:DNRL	LA: LB3:DNRL	PM:RENV:DSEA	BC: LB3:DNRL (Acting)
NAME	PVokoun	SGreen	PDoub	AFetter
DATE	03/ 28/2017	03/29/2017	03/ 10 /2017	4/20/2017

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Clinch River Nuclear Site
Early Site Permit Application
Part 3, Environmental Report

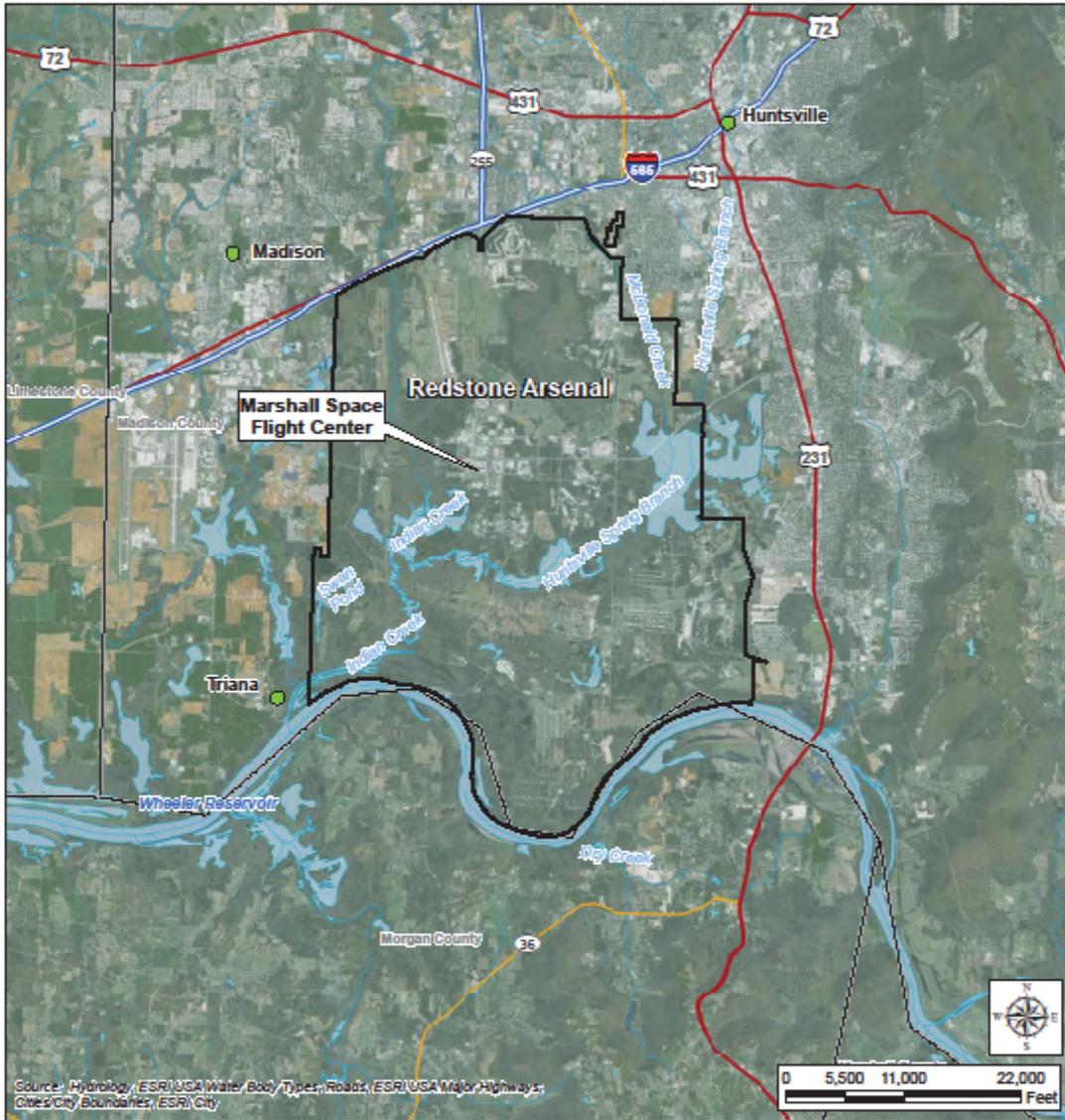


Legend

- City
- Interstate
- Major Road
- Candidate Area Boundary
- Highway
- Local Road
- Rivers and Lakes

Figure 9.3-5. ORR Aerial

Clinch River Nuclear Site
 Early Site Permit Application
 Part 3, Environmental Report



- Legend**
- Cities
 - Candidate Area Boundary
 - Counties
 - Rivers and Lakes
 - Interstate
 - Highway
 - Major Road

Figure 9.3-8. Redstone Arsenal Aerial

Clinch River Environmental Mailing List
cc:

(Revised 03/25/2017)

Mr. Lionel Batty
Nuclear Business Team
Graftech
12300 Snow Road
Parma, OH 44130

Ms. V. Anne Heard, Acting Regional
Administrator
US EPA Region 4
61 Forsyth Street SW
Atlanta, GA 30303-8960

Mr. Daniel P. Stout
Nuclear Business Team
Senior Manager
SMR Technology
Tennessee Valley Authority
1201 P Street, NW, Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20004-1218

Mr. Russell Bell
Nuclear Energy Institute
1776 I Street, NW
Suite 400
Washington, DC 20006-3708

Ms. Taconya Goar
Environmental Affairs Supervisor
Alabama Department of Conservation and
Natural Resources
64 North Union Street, Suite 551
Montgomery, AL 36130

Mr. Brendan Hoffman
Research Associate on Nuclear Energy
Public Citizens Critical Mass Energy
and Environmental Program
215 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20003

Ms. Mary Jennings
Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Tennessee Ecological Services Field Office
466 Neal Street
Cookeville, TN 38506

Mr. E. Patrick McIntyre, Jr.
Executive Director and
State Historic Preservation Officer
Tennessee Historical Commission
State Historic Preservation Office
2941 Lebanon Pike
Nashville, TN 37214

Mr. Dobie McArthur, Director
Washington Operations
General Atomics
1899 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Suite 300
Washington, DC 20006

Mr. Reid Nelson, Director
Office of Federal Agency Programs
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
401 F Street NW, Suite 308
Washington DC 20001-2637

Mr. Bill Pearson, Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Alabama Ecological Services Field Office
1208-B Main Street
Daphne, AL 36526

Mr. David Repka
Winston & Strawn LLP
1700 K. Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006-3817

Mr. Carlos Sisco, Senior Paralegal
Winston & Strawn LLP
1700 K Street NW
Washington, DC 20006

Mr. Robert E. Sweeney
IBEX ESI
4641 Montgomery Avenue, Suite 350
Bethesda, MD 20814

Mr. Eric Reusch
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Nashville District
3701 Bell Road
Nashville, TN 37214

Clinch River Mailing List
cc:

(Revised 3/25/2017)

Ms. Emily Steele
Kingston Public Library
1004 Bradford Way
Kingston, TN 37763

Ms. Kathy McNeilly, Director
Oak Ridge Public Library
1401 Oak Ridge Turnpike
Oak Ridge, TN 37830

Email:

Alan.Levin@areva.com (Alan Levin)
alawson@knoxville.tn.gov (Alan Lawson)
asi@ornl.gov (Anita Benn)
awc@nei.org (Anne W. Cottingham)
badwan@lanl.gov (Faris Badwan)
bevans@enercon.com (Bob Evans)
cee@nei.org
charles.bagnal@ge.com (Charles Bagnal)
chm3@aol.com (Clyde Morton)
collinlj@westinghouse.com (Leslie Collins)
cposlusny@babcock.com (Chester Poslusny)
curtisslaw@gmail.com (Jim Curtiss)
d.weaver@holtec.com (Doug Weaver)
david.hinds@ge.com (David Hinds)
david.lewis@pillsburylaw.com (David Lewis)
debra.shults@tn.gov (Debra Shults)
dhsmith@loudoncounty-tn.gov (Daryl Smith)
dlfulton@southernco.com (Dale Fulton)
don.tormey@iub.iowa.gov (Don Tormey)
dpstout@tva.gov (Daniel Stout)
dsafer@comcast.net (Don Safer)
duane.fournier@iub.iowa.gov
ed.burns@earthlink.net (Ed Burns)
edwardsd@mcsed.net (D. Edwards)
ethompson@astribe.com (Erin Thompson)
elyman@ucsusa.org (Ed Lyman)
emermgmt@highland.net (Jody Zorsch)
erg-xl@cox.net (Eddie R. Grant)
eroeste1@bechtel.com (Eric Oesterle)
ewallace@nuscalepower.com (Ed Wallace)
exa@nei.org (Ellen Anderson)
F.Shahrokhi@AREVA.Com (Farshid Shahrokhi)
flowerspa@ornl.gov (Paula Flowers)
frank.bodine@oca.iowa.gov (Frank Bodine)
gmokulczyk@energysolutions.com (Gair Okulczyk)
gmorg50@hotmail.com (Garry Morgan)
hickste@earthlink.net (Thomas Hicks)
jahalfinger@babcock.com (Jeff Halfinger)
james1.beard@ge.com (James Beard)
jason.parker@pillsburylaw.com (Jason Parker)
jcsaldar@bechtel.com (James Saldarini)
jerald.head@ge.com (Jerald Head)
Jim.Kinsey@inl.gov (James Kinsey)
jim.sundermeyer@iub.iowa.gov (Jim Sundermeyer)
jnperry@tva.gov (Jeff Perry)
JNR@NuScalePower.com (Jose N. Reyes)
jrappe@nuscalepower.com (Jodi Rappe)
kerri.johannsen@iub.iowa.gov (Kerri Johannsen)

klingscl@westinghouse.com (Charles Kling)
kouhestani@msn.com (Amir Kouhestani)
krowe@tva.gov (Kevin R. Rowe)
KSutton@morganlewis.com (Kathryn M. Sutton)
Kwelter@NuScalePower.com (Kent Welter)
larry.shi@oca.iowa.gov (Larry Shi)
larry.stevens@iub.iowa.gov (Larry Stevens)
laura.andrews@CNSC-CCSN.GC.CA (Laura Andrews)
lchandler@morganlewis.com (Lawrence J. Chandler)
lgorenflo@gmail.com (L. Gorenflo)
libby.jacobs@iub.iowa.gov (Libby Jacobs)
luther.jones@dzatlantic.com (Luther B. Jones)
mack.thompson@iub.iowa.gov (Mack Thomson)
maria.webb@pillsburylaw.com (Maria Webb)
mark.a.giles@dom.com (Mark Giles)
mark.m.mcintosh@usace.army.mil
mark.holbrook@inl.gov (Mark Holbrook)
mark@npva.net
martha.shields@nuclear.energy.gov (Martha Shields)
mary_e_jennings@fws.gov (Mary Jennings)
murawski@newsobserver.com (John Murawski)
nanako@wcore.com (Nanako Hisamichi)
paynkey@hotmail.com (Steve Payne)
parveen.baig@iub.iowa.gov (Parveen Baig)
patriciaL.campbell@ge.com (Patricia L. Campbell)
Paul@beyondnuclear.org (Paul Gunter)
PLorenzini@NuScalePower.com (Paul Lorenzini)
poorewpiil@ornl.gov (Willis P. Poore III)
pshastings@tva.gov (Peter Hastings)
rbarrett@astminc.com (Richard Barrett)
rnicholas@ge.com (Robert Nicholas)
ronald.polle@oca.iowa.gov (Ronald Polle)
RSnuggerud@NuScalePower.com (Ross Snuggerud)
Sandra@sandrakgoss.com (Sandra Goss)
sara@cleanenergy.org (Sara Barczak)
scott.stout@roanecountytn.org (Scott Stout)
sfrantz@morganlewis.com (Stephen P. Frantz)
section106@mcn-nsn.gov (Corain Lowe-Zepeda)
shobbs@enercon.com (Sam Hobbs)
SiteDCC-mpower@babcock.com (Document Control)
smirsky@nuscalepower.com (Steve Mirsky)
smsloan@babcock.com (Sandra Sloan)
spellmandj@ornl.gov (Donald J. Spellman)
stan.wolf@iub.iowa.gov (Stan Wolf)
stephan.moen@ge.com (Stephan Moen)
t.sensue@holtec.com (Terry Sensue)
tdec.nepa@tn.gov (Jennifer Hauser)
tfeigenbaum@generationmpower.com (Ted Feigenbaum)
tgado@roe.com (Burns & Roe)
tholden@tnema.org (Tim Holden)
thpo@tttown.org (Emma Spain)

timothy.beville@nuclear.energy.gov (Timothy Beville)
tom.miller@nuclear.energy.gov (Thomas P. Miller)
TomClements329@cs.com (Tom Clements)
tommy_le2001@yahoo.com (Tommy Le)
trsmith@winston.com (Tyson Smith)
Vanessa.quinn@dhs.gov (Vanessa Quinn)
W.E.SMIT@southernco.com (William Smith)
whorin@winston.com (W. Horin)