



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
ROCK ISLAND FIELD OFFICE (ES)
1830 Second Avenue, Second Floor
Rock Island, Illinois 61201

IN REPLY REFER TO:

COM: 309/793-5800
FTS: 386-5800

September 26, 1989

50-237

Mr. Byron L. Siegel
Division of Reactor Projects III
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Siegel:

This is in response to your letter dated August 28, 1989, requesting endangered species information for the vicinity of Dresden Nuclear Power Station, Unit 2, near Morris, Grundy County, Illinois.

The endangered bald eagle (Haliaeetus leucocephalus) is listed as wintering along the Illinois River in Grundy and Will Counties. During the winter, this species feeds on fish in the open water areas created by dam tailwaters, the warm water discharges of power plants and municipal and industrial discharges or in power plant cooling ponds. The more severe the winter, the greater the ice coverage and the more concentrated the eagles become. They roost at night in groups in ravines adjacent to the river that are protected from the harsh winter elements. They perch in large shoreline trees to rest or feed on fish. There is no Critical Habitat designated for this species in Illinois and the only restrictions that apply to the eagle are that it not be harassed, harmed or disturbed when present.

The threatened lakeside daisy (Hymenoxys acaulis var. glabra) is listed for Will and Tazewell Counties. It occupies dry, rocky prairies. There is no Critical Habitat listed for this species in Illinois. Our regulations only prohibit the "taking" of this species from Federal land.

The eastern prairie fringed orchid (Platanthera leucophaea) is proposed for threatened status in Kane and Grundy counties. It occupies wet grassland habitats. There is no Critical Habitat designated for this species in Illinois. Our regulations prohibit the "taking" of this species from Federal land.

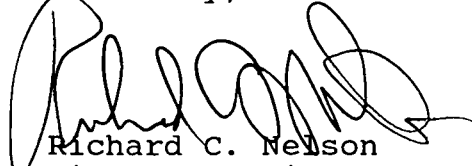
Provided the current operating practices of the power plant remain unchanged, we anticipate that there will be no effect on any federally listed threatened or endangered species due to full-term licensing of this unit. This precludes the need for

8910060177 890926
PDR ADUCK 05000237
P PDC

Cool
1/1

further action on this project as required under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. Should the project be modified or new information indicate that endangered species may be affected, consultation should be initiated.

Sincerely,



Richard C. Nelson
Field Supervisor