



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

April 20, 2018

Mr. Larry Long
NEPA Program Office
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,
Region 4
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303

SUBJECT: NOTIFICATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR THE EARLY SITE PERMIT APPLICATION FOR THE CLINCH RIVER NUCLEAR SITE IN ROANE COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Dear Mr. Long:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff is reviewing an application submitted by the Tennessee Valley Authority for an early site permit (ESP) for the Clinch River Nuclear (CRN) Site near Oak Ridge, Tennessee. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Nashville District (USACE), is a cooperating agency on the draft environmental impact statement (DEIS), which was prepared in accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 51, the NRC's regulations that implement the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended. A DVD of the DEIS, NUREG-2226, "Environmental Impact Statement for an Early Site Permit (ESP) for the Clinch River Nuclear Site: Draft Report for Comment" is enclosed for your information and review.

For your convenience, a Reader's Guide is attached to the DVD. The Reader's Guide is a detailed brochure to facilitate your understanding of the proposed action and its potential environmental impacts.

The NRC and USACE staff plan to hold two public meetings to discuss the analyses and results in the DEIS on Tuesday, June 5, 2018, at Noah's Event Venue, 1200 Ladd Landing Boulevard, Kingston, Tennessee. The first meeting will convene at 2:00 p.m. and will continue until 4:00 p.m., as necessary. The second meeting will convene at 7:00 p.m., with a repeat of the overview portions of the first meeting, and will continue until 9:00 p.m., as necessary. The meetings will be transcribed and will include: (1) a presentation of the contents of the DEIS; and (2) the opportunity for interested government agencies, organizations, and individuals to provide comments on the DEIS. Additionally, the NRC and USACE staff will host informal discussions one hour before the start of each meeting during which members of the public may meet with NRC and USACE staff. You and your staff are invited to attend.

The DEIS includes analyses of relevant environmental issues, and documents the NRC and USACE staff's determination regarding the suitability of the proposed site for siting potential future small modular reactors at the CRN Site. An ESP does not, however, authorize construction and operation of a nuclear power plant. Such authorization would require an additional application and review.

Please provide any information, comments, or concerns you feel are appropriate on the DEIS during the comment period, which ends on July 13, 2018. Comments can be submitted: (1) by e-mail to ClinchRiverESPEIS@nrc.gov; or (2) in person during the public meetings. After consideration of public comments received, as well as information received through consultation, the NRC will prepare a final environmental impact statement, which is scheduled to be published in June 2019.

The DEIS is also available through the NRC's Agencywide Document Access and Management System (ADAMS), which is accessible from the NRC's Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> under ADAMS Accession No. ML18100A220 and ML18100A223. In addition, the DEIS can be found online at the NRC's Clinch River Nuclear Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactors/esp/clinch-river.html>.

If you have any questions concerning the NRC staff's environmental review of this ESP application, please contact Ms. Patricia Vokoun, NRC Environmental Project Manager for the CRN ESP project, at (301) 415-3470 or by e-mail at Patricia.Vokoun@nrc.gov, or in her absence, please contact Ms. Tamsen Dozier at (301) 415-2272 or by e-mail at Tamsen.Dozier@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA – A. Bradford for/

Adrian Muñiz, Acting Branch Chief
Licensing Branch 3
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

Docket No.: 52-047

Enclosure:

1. DVD
2. Reader's Guide

cc w/o encls: See next page

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IMPACT STATEMENT FOR THE EARLY SITE PERMIT APPLICATION FOR THE
CLINCH RIVER NUCLEAR SITE IN ROANE COUNTY, TENNESSEE

DATED: April 20, 2018

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***via email**

NRO-002

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(Revised 03/12/2018)

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