



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

April 3, 2019

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

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE ISSUANCE OF THE FINAL
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR AN EARLY SITE PERMIT AT
THE CLINCH RIVER NUCLEAR SITE IN ROANE COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Dear Mr. McIntyre:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has completed NUREG-2226, "Environmental Impact Statement for an Early Site Permit (ESP) at the Clinch River Nuclear Site, Final Report." The final environmental impact statement (EIS) focuses on the impacts of building and operating two or more small modular reactors (SMRs) at the Clinch River Nuclear (CRN) Site near Oak Ridge, Tennessee. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Nashville District, is a cooperating agency on the final EIS, 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. The final EIS includes analyses of relevant environmental issues that inform the NRC staff's determination regarding the suitability of the proposed site for siting potential future SMRs 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.

A notice of availability of the final EIS is anticipated to be published by the NRC on or before April 11, 2019 in the *Federal Register*. Enclosed, for your convenience, is a reader's guide which contains a DVD with electronic versions of Volumes 1 and 2 of the final EIS. The reader's guide is a detailed brochure to facilitate your understanding of the proposed action and its potential environmental impacts. The final EIS is also available through the publicly available records component of the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) under Accession Nos. ML19073A099 and ML19073A109. In addition, the final EIS can be found online on the NRC CRN Site Web site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactors/esp/clinch-river.html#feis>.

As discussed in Section 10.6 of the final EIS, the NRC staff's recommendation is that the ESP should be issued. This recommendation is based on: (1) the ESP application and supplemental information submitted by TVA; (2) consultation with Federal, State, Tribal, and local agencies; (3) the review team's independent review; (4) the NRC staff consideration of public comments; and (5) the assessments summarized in this EIS, including the potential mitigation measures identified in the ER and in this EIS. In addition, in making its recommendation, the NRC staff has concluded that none of the alternative sites considered is obviously superior to the proposed CRN Site.

E. McIntyre

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If you have any questions concerning the NRC staff's environmental review of this ESP application, please contact Ms. Tamsen Dozier at (301) 415-2272 or by e-mail at Tamsen.Dozier@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Jennivine Rankin, Acting Chief
Licensing Branch 3
Division of Licensing, Siting, and
Environmental Analysis
Office of New Reactors

Docket No.: 52-047

Enclosures:
As stated

cc: Justin Heske, Historic Preservation Specialist
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DATED: April 3, 2019

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***via e-mail**

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(Revised 03/27/2019)

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