

ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARD REVIEW PLAN

FOR ES SECTION 10.3

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SHORT-TERM USES AND LONG-TERM
PRODUCTIVITY OF MAN'S ENVIRONMENT

REVIEW INPUTS

Environmental Report Sections

None

Environmental Reviews

- 10.1 Unavoidable Adverse Environmental Impacts
- 10.2 Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitments of Resources

Standards and Guides

None

Other

Consultation with local, State, and Federal agencies

REVIEW OUTPUTS

Environmental Statement Sections

- 10.3 Relationship Between Short-Term Uses and Long-Term Productivity
of Man's Environment

Other Environmental Reviews

None

I. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this environmental standard review plan (ESRP) is to direct the staff's review and summarization of the proposed project's local short-term uses of the environment and the effects of these uses on long-term environmental productivity.

109 239

The scope of the review directed by this plan will include an analysis of the predicted short-term unavoidable adverse environmental impacts (or environmental benefits) of plant construction and operation and the predicted long-term environmental impacts (or benefits) resulting from plant construction and operation. For the purposes of this ESRP, short-term will represent the period from start of construction to end of plant life, including prompt decommissioning, and long-term will represent the period extending beyond end of plant life, including the period up to and beyond that required for delayed plant decommissioning. The review will also include an evaluation of the extent to which the proposed project's use of the environment will foreclose any options for other future use of the environment.

II. REQUIRED DATA AND INFORMATION

The kinds of data and information required will be those unavoidable adverse environmental impacts of plant construction and operation and those irreversible and irretrievable commitments of resources that represent short-term and long-term use of man's environment. Inputs from the following ES Section reviewers will be required.

A. Adverse impacts of construction and operation (from the reviewer for ES Section 10.1).

B. Irreversible and irretrievable commitment of resources (from the reviewer for ES Section 10.2).

III. ANALYSIS PROCEDURE

The reviewer's analysis of the relationship between short-term uses and long-term productivity will be based on the tabulation of unavoidable adverse environmental impacts and irreversible and irretrievable commitments of resources prepared by the reviewers for ES Sections 10.1 and 10.2. Unless

other long-term preemptions have been identified by these reviewers, the reviewer will consider that an occupation of land by plant structures for an indefinite period represents the maximum impact on long-term productivity.

The reviewer will identify through consultation with the appropriate ES Section 4 and 5 reviewers those other uses of the environment that will be foreclosed by plant construction and operation (e.g., loss of productive farmland) and will classify these as either short-term or long-term preemptions. The reviewer will also determine how any short-term or long-term benefits of the proposed project, as identified by appropriate ES Section 4 or 5 reviewers, affect any such preemptions. As necessary, the reviewer will consult with appropriate local, State, and Federal agencies to make these determinations.

IV. EVALUATION

The reviewer will evaluate the project's impact on short-term use and long-term productivity capabilities of the environment and will determine if the input statement provided in Section V of this ESRP is accurate and applicable.

V. INPUT TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

Unless the reviewer has identified other long-term environmental impacts, the following input to the ES will be used:

The local use of man's environment by the proposed project can be summarized in terms of the unavoidable adverse environmental impacts of construction and operation given in ES Section 10.1 and the irreversible and irretrievable commitments of resources given in ES Section 10.2. With the exception of the consumption of depletable resources as a result of plant construction and operation, these uses may be classed as short-term. The principle short-term benefit of the plant is represented by the production of electrical energy, and the economic productivity of the site when used for this purpose will be extremely large compared with the productivity from agriculture or from other probable uses for the site.

The maximum long-term impact to productivity will result when the plant is not dismantled at the end of plant life, and consequently the land occupied by the plant structures will not be available for any other use. However, the enhancement of regional productivity resulting from the electrical energy produced by the plant is expected to result in a correspondingly large increase in regional long-term productivity that would not be equalled by any other long-term use of the site. In addition, most long-term impacts resulting from land-use preemption by plant structures can be eliminated by removal of these structures or by their conversion to other productive uses.

The staff concludes that the negative aspects of plant construction and operation as they affect man's environment are outweighed by the positive long-term enhancement of regional productivity through the generation of electrical energy.

VI. REFERENCES

None

109 242