

United States Department of the Interior

ATLANTA GEORGIA 30303

JAN 1 5 1980

Mr. Ronald L. Ballard, Chief Environmental Projects Branch 1 Division of Site Safety and Environmental Analysis U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Mr. Ballard:

This acknowledges your letter of December 31, 1979 (received January 7, 1980) requesting information on whether any endangered, threatened, or proposed to be listed species may be present in the area of the construction of the Waterford Steam Electric Station Unit No. 3 which is located in St. Charles Parish, Louisiana. We have assigned log number 4-3-80-A-60 to this project, and we request that you refer to this number in all future correspondence.

We have forwarded the information that you provided to our Jackson Area Office for their review. Upon completion of their review, we will provide you with a list of species that may be present in the area of the proposed action, and the information needed in the biological assessment if it is required.

Please note, as stated in the third paragraph of our January 3 letter to you, that consultation is required even though construction of this station began prior to November 10, 1978. If contracts have not been assigned after this date, then a biological assessment is not required but cons ltation is still necessary.

We appreciate your interest and concern in the preservation of listed species.

Sincerely yours,

Regional Director

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Attachment

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