

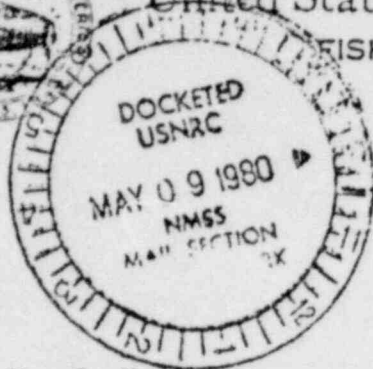
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United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

75 SPRING STREET, S.W.
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

TELA



Mr. E. Y. Shum
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Uranium Process Licensing Section
Division of Fuel Cycle and Material Safety
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Mr. Shum:

This acknowledges your correspondence of April 9, 1980 (received April 17, 1980), requesting information on whether any endangered, threatened, or proposed to be listed species may be present in the area of the 814-acre site in Autauga County, near Prattville, Alabama, about 12 miles northwest of Montgomery, Alabama.

We have forwarded the information you provided to our Jackson Area Office for its review. Upon completion of this review, a list of species that may be present in the area of the proposed action will be provided. If a biological assessment is required, we will also indicate the information it should contain.

In an effort to streamline the consultation process under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, the Fish and Wildlife Service has made a minor change in consultation procedures. Pursuant to our letter of March 19, 1980, your agency should request a list of threatened or endangered species that may occur in your project areas from the Jackson Area Office --not from the Regional Office in Atlanta.

Under former procedures, the request for a list of species was mailed to the Atlanta Office and forwarded to the Area Office. With this new arrangement the request can be sent directly to the Area Office which will respond directly to the Agency. This will save time as well as reduce paperwork in the consultation process.

For those construction projects where listed species may occur, a biological assessment is required. Those assessments which determine a "no effect" to the species should be sent directly to the Area Office with a copy to the Regional Office. Those assessments which determine a "may affect" situation, and therefore request consultation, should be sent to the Regional Office.

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

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth E. Black

Regional Director

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