

Docket No. 50-313 ✓

OCT 19 1976

Dr. Alfred Houser
South Central Reservoir
Investigations
Bureau of Sports Fisheries
and Wildlife
U. S. Department of the
Interior
Fayetteville, Arkansas

Dear Dr. Houser:

On March 28, 1975 Dr. C. Billups and I met with you concerning the threadfin shad losses at Arkansas Nuclear One - Unit 1 (ANO-1). Since that time we have modified to some extent their monitoring program and have followed in some detail the subsequent reports generated from these studies.

On August 30, 1976 Arkansas Power and Light Company submitted a Semi-Annual Environmental Monitoring Report for Arkansas Nuclear One - Unit 1 covering studies performed during the first and second quarters of 1976. A copy is enclosed.

I would like to call your attention to several interesting observations made by B. Tatum, consultant to AP&L, during his execution of the ANO-1 fish monitoring program. On page 47 it is reported that "Large hydra were found feeding on larval fish in Area C (Discharge Cove) during May 1976." Is this unusual for southern reservoirs and should we be concerned?

The second observation, this time substantiated by preserved material, again appearing on page 47, concerns the larval fishes in the reservoir: "The June 1976 meter net samples from all areas of the reservoir produced 30 percent to 60 percent larval fish with raised areas or growths over the body and/or spinal curvature." B. Tatum stated in a phone conversation that the vast majority of specimens collected were clupeids, and that this condition persisted at a somewhat reduced level into the month of July, particularly in the area of the Discharge Cove. We are interested in the cause of the developmental abnormalities and/or pathology in order to evaluate any interaction with the station and would, therefore, like your opinion on the matter.

8004280 674

R

The final observation of interest, on page 50 concerns the mollusc community of Lake Dardanelle: "On almost every collection trip from mid-May through June, dead but not deteriorated mussels were observed floating in every area of the reservoir." We had previously assumed the concentration of Unionids in the reservoir to be quite low. The cause of death is presently unknown. Again we would like your comments concerning this finding.

ANO-1 was operating only during a small portion of the report period. The semi-annual report is informative but not conclusive. Therefore, we would appreciate any comments you may have which would contribute to an understanding of the aquatic biota in Lake Dardanelle.

I may be contacted at 301-492-7903.

Sincerely,

Original Signed

Michael T. Masnik, Ph.D.
Environmental Specialists Branch
Division of Site Safety and
Environmental Analysis
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
Semi-Annual Report

cc: w/o enclosure
M. Ernst
R. Ballard
B. Grimes
L. Higginbotham
B. Converse
W. Pasciak
C. Billups
M. Masnik

DISTRIBUTION
Docket File 50-315 ✓

NRR:Rdg
ESB:Rdg
ET:Rdg

OFFICE →	DSE:bf:ESB <i>Masnik</i>				
SURNAME →	MTMasnik:jaf				
DATE →	10/14/76				