

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

JACKSON MALL OFFICE CENTER 300 WOODROW WILSON AVENUE, SUITE 3185 JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39213

June 28, 1983

IN REPLY REFER TO: Log No. 4-3-83-405

50-458/459

Ms. Elinor Adensam, Chief Licensing Branch No. 4 Division of Licensing Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555

Re: Nuclear Power Plant, St. Francisville, LA

Dear Ms. Adensam:

This responds to your letter of June 15, 1983. We have reviewed the information you enclosed relative to the Endangered Species Act (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

The endangered red-cockaded woodpecker (<u>Picoides borealis</u>) may occur in the project area. This species forms colonies in fairly open stands of mature (50+ years) pine trees, with no appreciable hardwood understory. Cavity trees are usually infected with red heart disease. Areas proposed to be cleared or altered by project activities should be inspected for the presence of such habitat. Any such habitat found on the proposed construction area should be surveyed for the presence of active red-cockaded woodpecker colonies. If appropriate habitat for colonies of this species does not occur on the area(s) proposed to be cleared, no further coordination with our office will be necessary for this species. We would appreciate your notifying us of the results of your site inspection. Please refer to the appropriate log number in your correspondence.

Our records indicate no other listed or proposed species or their Critical Habitat occurring in the project area.

If you require further information regarding this project, please contact our office, telephone 601/960-4900.

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We appreciate your participation in the efforts to enhance the existence of endangered species.

Sincerely yours,

Dennis B. Jordan
Field Supervisor

Endangered Species Field Office

cc: D, FWS, Washington, D.C. (AFA/OES)
RD, FWS, Atlanta, GA (AFA/SE)
Department of Wildlife & Fisheries, New Orleans, LA
ES, FWS, Lafayette, LA