



REGION 6

DALLAS, TX 75270

May 30, 2024

VIA Electronic Mail

Tam Tran
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop T-4B72
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

tam.tran@nrc.gov

Re: EPA Comments on the Final Supplement Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of the Comanche Peak Nuclear Power Plant, Somervell County, Texas

Dear Mr. Tran:

The Region 6 office of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Final Supplement Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) (CEQ Number 20240077) for the License Renewal of Comanche Peak Nuclear Power Plant (CPNPP), Units 1 and 2. The Draft EIS was reviewed pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500 – 1508), and by our NEPA review authority under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

The purpose of the CPNPP license renewal is to extend the reactor operating licenses for an additional twenty years beyond the expiration of the current licenses. The current operating license for Unit 1 expires on February 8, 2030, and the current operating license for Unit 2 expires on February 2, 2033. The CPNPP units are pressurized-water reactors designed by Westinghouse Electric Corporation. Each of the units consists of one pressurized water reactor, four steam generators, one steam turbine generator, a heat dissipation system, and associated auxiliary and engineered safeguards. The renewal of the Comanche Peak operating licenses will provide an option that allows for power generation capability beyond the term of the current nuclear power plant operating license to meet future system generating needs.

EPA would like to offer additional recommendations to minor concerns identified in the Final EIS related to Environmental Justice. We offer the following comments for your consideration.

Environmental Justice Comments

EPA recommends that the NRC complete and incorporate further analysis of impact on Environmental Justice populations in all environmental documents tiering from this Final Generic EIS including the replacement power alternatives analysis. Replacement power alternatives should undergo environmental and safety reviews to ensure they meet applicable Federal and state agency regulations and executive orders, such as an environmental justice review, consistent with Executive Orders (EO) 12898 and 14096, to determine whether a proposed new power generating facility would have disproportionate and adverse human health and environmental effects (e.g., water and air quality) on minority and low income populations and communities with environmental justice concerns. Section 3 (b)(i) of EO 14096 also directs the EPA to assess whether each agency analyzes and avoids or mitigates disproportionate human health and environmental effects on communities with environmental justice concerns when carrying out responsibilities under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. 7609.

EPA appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on this document. We look forward to the receipt of the Record of Decision (ROD) and your responses to these concerns. Once completed, please send our office an electronic copy of the ROD when it is electronically filed with the Office of Federal Activities using the following link: <https://www.epa.gov/nepa/environmental-impact-statement-filing-guidance>. If you have any questions, please contact Gabe Gruta, project review lead at 214-665-2174 or gruta.gabriel@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

**ROBERT
HOUSTON**  Digitally signed by
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Robert Houston
Branch Manager
Environmental Justice, Community Engagement and
Environmental Review Division