

April 16, 2015

Mr. Rocco R. Sgarro, Vice President  
Nuclear Project Development  
PPL Bell Bend, LLC  
Two North Ninth Street  
GEN PL4  
Allentown, PA 18104

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT  
STATEMENT FOR THE COMBINED LICENSE APPLICATION FOR BELL  
BEND NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

Dear Mr. Sgarro:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has completed NUREG-2179, "Environmental Impact Statement for the Combined License (COL) for the Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant." The draft environmental impact statement (EIS) focuses on the impacts of constructing and operating one new nuclear unit at the Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant (BBNPP) site. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Baltimore District, is a cooperating agency on the draft EIS.

Enclosed is a copy of the draft EIS and the associated *Federal Register* Notice of Availability. This notice advises the public that the draft EIS is available to the public from the Publicly Available Records component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> which provides access through the NRC's Electronic Reading Room link. The accession numbers in ADAMS for the draft EIS Volumes 1 and 2 are ML15103A012 and ML15103A025, respectively. The draft EIS can also be found at the NRC's BBNPP COL application specific webpage at <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactors/col/bell-bend.html>.

The NRC and USACE plan to hold two public meetings to present the analyses and results of the draft EIS on Thursday, June 4, 2015, at the Bloomsburg University, Monty's Building Upper Campus, 400 East Second Street, Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania 17815. The first meeting will convene at 3:00 p.m. and will continue until 5:30 p.m., as necessary. The second meeting will convene at 7:30 p.m., and will continue until 10:00 p.m., as necessary. The meetings will be transcribed and will include: (1) a presentation of the contents of the draft EIS and (2) the opportunity for interested government agencies, organizations, and individuals to provide comments on the draft EIS. Additionally, the NRC staff will host informal discussions one hour before the start of the meetings during which members of the public may meet and talk with NRC and USACE staff members on an informal basis. You and your staff are invited to attend.

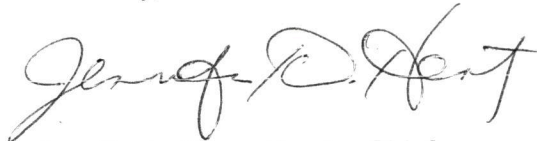
R. Sgarro

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As discussed in Section 10.7 of the draft EIS, the NRC staff's preliminary recommendation is that the COL for BBNPP should be issued. This preliminary recommendation is based on: (1) the COL application environmental report; (2) consultation with Federal, State, Tribal, and local agencies; (3) the NRC and USACE staffs' independent review; (4) the staff's consideration of public scoping comments; and (5) the assessments summarized in the draft EIS, including the potential mitigation measures identified.

A separate notice of filing of the draft EIS will be placed in the *Federal Register* through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, which starts the 75-day public comment period. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact the NRC Environmental Project Managers, Ms. Tomeka Terry at (301) 415-1488, or by e-mail at [Tomeka.Terry@nrc.gov](mailto:Tomeka.Terry@nrc.gov), or Ms. Patricia Vokoun at (301) 415-3470, or [Patricia.Vokoun@nrc.gov](mailto:Patricia.Vokoun@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer L. Dixon-Herrity". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jennifer" being the most prominent part.

Jennifer L. Dixon-Herrity, Chief  
Environmental Projects Branch  
Division of New Reactor Licensing  
Office of New Reactors

Docket No. 52-039

Enclosures: As stated

cc: w/enclosures  
See next page

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