

## PMLeeCol PEmails

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**From:** Jessie Muir  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 01, 2008 10:47 AM  
**To:** lora\_zimmerman@fws.gov  
**Subject:** Lee Nuclear Station Scoping Letter to FWS  
**Attachments:** Lee Scoping Letter to FWS.pdf

Lora,  
Thanks again for attending the Lee site visit on Tuesday. We appreciate your time and input.

I've attached a copy of the Scoping Letter we sent to the Regional FWS office, addressed to Mr. Hamilton.

Could you please forward to Mr. Timothy Hall? I do not have his email address.

Thanks,  
Jessie

**Hearing Identifier:** Lee\_COL\_Public\_EX  
**Email Number:** 79

**Mail Envelope Properties** (3E54A9B051CAB64F8DA8BE1178BC8D37346E8B104E)

**Subject:** Lee Nuclear Station Scoping Letter to FWS  
**Sent Date:** 5/1/2008 10:47:02 AM  
**Received Date:** 5/1/2008 10:47:02 AM  
**From:** Jessie Muir

**Created By:** Jessie.Muir@nrc.gov

**Recipients:**  
"lora\_zimmerman@fws.gov" <lora\_zimmerman@fws.gov>  
Tracking Status: None

**Post Office:** HQCLSTR01.nrc.gov

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Lee Scoping Letter to FWS.pdf	79959	

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**Reply Requested:** No  
**Sensitivity:** Normal  
**Expiration Date:**  
**Recipients Received:**

April 9, 2008

Mr. Sam Hamilton, Regional Director  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Southeast Region  
1875 Century Blvd., Suite 400  
Atlanta, GA 30345

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING  
PROCESS AND A LIST OF PROTECTED SPECIES WITHIN THE AREA  
UNDER EVALUATION FOR WILLIAM STATES LEE III NUCLEAR STATION,  
UNITS 1 AND 2 COMBINED LICENSE APPLICATION

Dear Mr. Hamilton:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff is reviewing an application submitted by Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC (Duke) for a combined license (COL) for construction and operation of two new nuclear power plants at its William States Lee III Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2 (Lee) site in Gaffney, South Carolina. As part of the review of this COL application, the NRC is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) as required by Title 10 Part 51 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR), the NRC's regulation that implements the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. The EIS includes an analysis of pertinent environmental issues including endangered or threatened species and impacts to fish and wildlife. This letter is being submitted under the provisions of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act of 1934, as amended.

Duke submitted the application for the COL on December 13, 2007, pursuant to NRC requirements in 10 CFR Part 52. The application was accepted for docketing on February 25, 2008, and is available through the web-based version of the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), accessible at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. The application is listed under accession number ML073510876. The Lee COL application is also available on the Internet at <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-licensing/col/lee.html>.

The Lee site is located on approximately 1900 acres in the eastern portion of Cherokee County in north central South Carolina approximately 7.5 miles southeast of Gaffney, South Carolina, on the west side of the Broad River, just upstream from the Ninety-Nine Islands Hydroelectric Plant. Duke Power Company partially constructed the proposed Cherokee Nuclear Station on this site between 1977 and 1982. Duke plans to construct two new nuclear units at the existing site. Construction and operation of the proposed Lee Nuclear Station would be within the previously disturbed, large, open, and contiguous 750 acres of land previously cleared for construction activities. Currently, this land consists of open, partially developed industrial land with low groundcover vegetation and scattered areas of sparse tree growth and the aquatic environs are dominated by the Ninety-Nine Islands Reservoir. Two proposed transmission line rights-of-way are planned for the Lee Nuclear Station. Modification of existing transmission lines to carry additional power load from the plant may be required.

Final selection of the routes is subject to review and approval by the Public Service Commission of South Carolina. Duke plans to use mechanical draft cooling towers to remove waste heat during power operation for the proposed Units 1 and 2. Makeup water for these units is planned to be withdrawn from the Ninety-Nine Islands Reservoir (Broad River) through the river water intake structure. At times of low river flow in the Broad River, water will be withdrawn from onsite ponds to augment make-up water. The applicant's preferred location for the new units would be adjacent to the existing, partially-constructed Cherokee Nuclear Station in Cherokee County, South Carolina. The three alternate sites to be evaluated in the EIS are located in Oconee and Anderson Counties in South Carolina and Davie County, North Carolina. The siting area for the new units and transmission lines include York and Union Counties of South Carolina, in addition to Cherokee County.

To support the EIS preparation process and to ensure compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, the NRC requests information on Federally-listed, proposed, and candidate species and critical habitat that may be in the vicinity of the William States Lee III Nuclear Station Site and the associated transmission line rights-of-way. In addition, please provide any information you consider appropriate under the provisions of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act.

The NRC staff plans to hold a public NEPA scoping meeting on Thursday, May 01, 2008, at Gaffney High School, 149 Twin Lake Road, Gaffney, SC 29341 from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. to provide the public with the opportunity to participate in an environmental scoping process. The meeting will be preceded by an open house from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., during which members of the public may meet and talk with NRC staff members on an informal basis. In addition, during the week of April 28, 2008, the NRC plans to conduct a site audit. You and your staff are invited to attend both the public meeting and the site audit. Your office will receive a copy of the draft EIS along with a request for comments. The anticipated publication date for the draft EIS is May 2009.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Ms. Linda Tello, Environmental Project Manager for the Lee COL, at 301-415-2907 or by e-mail at [Linda.Tello@nrc.gov](mailto:Linda.Tello@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

/RA/

Richard P. Raione, Branch Chief  
Environmental Projects Branch 2  
Division of Site and Environmental Reviews  
Office of New Reactors

Docket Nos.: 52-018 and 52-019

cc: See next page

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Richard P. Raione, Branch Chief  
Environmental Projects Branch 2  
Division of Site and Environmental Reviews  
Office of New Reactors

Docket Nos.: 52-018 and 52-019

cc: See next page

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DATE	03/ /08	03/26/08	03/26/08	03/28/08	04/08/08	04/08/08

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