

George Wrobel
Licensing Director



June 10, 2008

Karen Kaniatobe, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
2025 S. Gordon Cooper Drive
Shawnee, OK 74801

RE: Tribal Consultation on Proposed Undertaking
Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant
Luzerne County, Pennsylvania

Dear Ms Kaniatobe:

UniStar Nuclear, LLC (UniStar) would like to request consultation with the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma on the possible construction of a new nuclear power generating unit adjacent to the existing PPL Corporation's Susquehanna Steam Electric Station (SSES) near Berwick, Pennsylvania. UniStar is submitting a Combined License application to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), requesting approval to construct and operate the new unit. The NRC's decision to issue a license meets the definition of an "undertaking" in the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (section 106) and *Procedures for the Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties* as set forth in 36 CFR 800. The NRC, as lead agency, has authorized applicants to initiate consultation with appropriate consulting parties including tribal entities.

The attached map illustrates the proposed project location (Attachment 1). The proposed facilities are located predominantly west and south of the current SSES facility, with the exception of the water-dependent facilities (e.g., cooling water intake and discharge structures) which would be situated on the bank of the West Branch Susquehanna River. In addition, a possible temporary lay-down area is located along the river to the northeast of the existing facility. All construction activities would occur within an approximately 600-acre project area adjacent to the existing SSES facility.

UniStar, with the assistance of cultural resource specialists from GAI Consultants, Inc. (GAI) has conducted Phase 1A cultural resources investigations of the proposed project area. GAI'S Phase 1A reconnaissance, performed in June 2007 and January 2008, evaluated the archaeological potential within the project area and identified architectural and historical resources within the project viewshed. The results of this work are presented in two separate reports - a letter report (GAI 2007) and a technical report (Munford and Tuk 2008). Phase 1B survey of portions of the project area determined to possess a moderate to high archaeological potential began in May 2008 and is currently in progress.

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As described in the Phase 1A reports, cultural resources studies conducted to date have identified five possible previously unrecorded historic archaeological sites within the proposed 600-acre project area. In addition, within the project viewshed, GAI identified one potential cultural property (Council Cup) which may require evaluation and documentation. Architectural survey identified 52 architectural and historical over 50 years of age within the project viewshed, five of which are located within the project footprint (fieldstone walls, Beach Grove Cemetery, portions of the North Branch Pennsylvania Canal, Bloomsburg Division of the DL&W railway and the Susquehanna and Tioga Turnpike/US Route 11).

As noted above, UniStar is enclosing a copy of GAI's Phase 1A letter report and GAI's Phase 1A Technical Report for your information. If you have any questions regarding this project, or if you need additional information, please feel free to contact me at 585-774-3535, or email at george.wrobel@unistarnuclear.com.

Sincerely,



George Wrobel

Attachment: Figure 1, Project Location

Enclosures: Final Letter Report, Phase 1A Cultural Resources Reconnaissance of PPL Lands in the Vicinity of Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania

Technical Report, Phase 1A Cultural Resources Reconnaissance, Berwick, PA NPP-1, Areas 6, 7, 8 and Confers Lane Parcel, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania

cc: J. Price
B. Perdue
T. Harpster, PPL
B. Resnick