

APPENDIX D

ANNOUNCEMENTS, NOTICES, AND NEWS RELEASES



NEWS RELEASE

TVA Seeks Public Comment on Draft Environmental Impact Statement

ATHENS, Ala. -- TVA is seeking public comment on a draft supplemental environmental impact statement that examines environmental impacts of a proposal to extend the operation of Units 2 and 3 and, potentially, of Unit 1 at Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant.

TVA will conduct a public meeting on Jan. 17 at the Aerospace Technology Training Center on the campus of Calhoun Community College near Decatur to provide an opportunity to comment on the draft SEIS. Registration begins at 6 p.m.

TVA has made copies of the draft environmental impact statement available to the public and other government agencies for review and comment and will accept comments until January 30. Copies of the draft SEIS were mailed to federal agencies and people who requested them following a public meeting to help determine the scope of the review in March 2001. A notice of availability of the SEIS appeared in the Federal Register on Dec. 14.

TVA proposes to submit an application to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to extend the operating licenses of Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant. Renewal of the licenses would permit TVA to continue operating the units an additional 20 years past the current 40-year operating license terms, which expire in 2014 and 2016 for Units 2 and 3, respectively.

The Unit 1 operating license expires in 2013. Unit 1 has not operated for 15 years. The SEIS examines the potential environmental impacts of restarting the unit and increasing the power output by up to 20 percent.

If TVA decides to seek license extensions, the three units would be able to continue to supply a firm, round-the-clock power supply to the TVA electric system to meet growing power demands.

Information from the environmental review process and other evaluations will be used to decide whether to pursue restarting Browns Ferry Unit 1 and whether to seek license extensions for all three units.

Anyone may request a copy of the SEIS or a summary of the document from Donald W. Snodgrass at TVA, CEB 4C, Muscle Shoals, Alabama 35662-1010, or by e-mail at dwsnodgrass@tva.gov. Written comments may be submitted to Bruce L. Yeager, Senior Specialist, National Environmental Policy Act, TVA, WT 8C-K, 400 West Summit Hill Drive, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902-1499. Comments also may be e-mailed to blyeager@tva.gov.

TVA is the nation's largest public power producer, and its power system is self financed. TVA provides power to large industries and 158 power distributors that serve 8.3 million consumers in seven southeastern states.

PAPER: ATHENS NEWS COURIER

CITY: ATHENS, AL

DATE: 1-10-02 PAGE: A3

NOTICE

PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT

TVA has prepared a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement addressing the potential environmental impacts of a proposal to extend the operating licenses of Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant for an additional 20 years and addressing spent fuel storage. License renewal is one option TVA is considering to supply base load generation to its power system to meet growing power demands.

TVA will conduct a public meeting on Thursday, January 17, 2002 at the Aerospace Technology Training Center at Calhoun Community College on U.S. 31 North, near Decatur, Alabama to obtain public comment on the Draft SEIS. Registration begins at 6 p.m. and the meeting at 6:30.

Persons who would like a copy or summary of the draft SEIS or would like to send in comments should contact Bruce L. Yeager, Tennessee Valley Authority, WT 8C-K, 400 West Summit Hill Drive, Knoxville, TN 37902-1499 or to: blyeager@tva.gov

TVA will accept comments through January 30, 2002.



December 6, 2001

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Federal Activities
NEPA Compliance Division
EIS Filing Section
Ariel Rios Building (South Oval Lobby)
Mail Code 2252-A, Room 7241
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20044

Dear Sir or Madam:

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY - DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
STATEMENT: BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT OPERATING LICENSE
RENEWAL, ATHENS, ALABAMA

Enclosed are five copies of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS): *Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant Operating License Renewal, Athens, Alabama*. This document is concurrently being distributed to commenting agencies and to the public.

Please publish a Notice of Availability of this DEIS in the Federal Register. To confirm publication date, or should you have any questions, please contact Bruce L. Yeager at (865) 632-8051.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Kathryn J. Jackson

BLY:TMH

Enclosures (5)

cc (Enclosure)

Mr. Heinz J. Mueller
Chief, Office of Environmental Assessment
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4
Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3104

cc: A. S. Bhatnagar, POB 2C-BFN
J. B. Brellenthin, PEC 1D-BFN
J. R. Rupert, LP 6A-C
J. A. Scalice, LP 6A-C
J. W. Shipp, Jr., MR 2T-C
G. R. Signer, ET 11A-K
K. W. Singer, LP 6A-C
C. L. Wilson, BR 4X-C
Files, EP&P, CST 17B-C

Prepared by Bruce L. Yeager; reviewed by Jon M. Loney; approved by John W Shipp, Jr.

BFN Draft SEIS NOA Letter to EPA

budgets in accordance with the needs of the program and the availability of funds. Awards made will be subject to periodic reporting and evaluation requirements.

Notification

Final awards cannot be made until funds have been appropriated by Congress, allocated and committed through internal ECA procedures.

Dated: February 9, 2001.

Helena Kane Finn,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs, U.S. Department of State.

[FR Doc. 01-3879 Filed 2-14-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-05-P

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement: Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant Operating License Renewal

AGENCY: Tennessee Valley Authority.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: This notice is provided in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality's regulations (40 CFR parts 1500-1508) and TVA's procedures for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act. The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) will prepare a supplemental environmental impact statement (SEIS) to address the environmental impacts associated with obtaining license extensions for the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant (BFN) located in Limestone County, Alabama. Renewal of the operating licenses will allow the plant to continue to operate for an additional 20 years beyond the expiration dates of the current operating licenses. The regulations of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) in 10 CFR part 54 set forth the applicable license extension requirements. This SEIS will also consider the impacts of the possible restart of Unit 1, which has been in a non-operational status since 1985, with an extended operating license. At this early stage, TVA contemplates that the action alternatives in the EIS could include a combination of license renewal and restart of Unit 1. The no-action alternative considered is a decision by TVA to not seek renewal of the operating licenses for the BFN units. Public comment is invited concerning both the scope of alternatives and environmental issues that should be addressed as part of the SEIS.

DATES: Comments on the scope of the SEIS must be postmarked or e-mailed no

later than March 23, 2001 to ensure consideration.

ADDRESSES: Written comments or e-mails on the scope of issues to be addressed in the SEIS should be sent to Bruce L. Yeager, Senior Specialist, National Environmental Policy Act, Environmental Policy and Planning, Tennessee Valley Authority, 400 West Summit Hill Drive, Mail Stop WT 8C-K, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902 (e-mail: blyeager@tva.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Charles L. Wilson, Nuclear Licensing Staff, Tennessee Valley Authority, 1101 Market Street, Mail Stop BR 4X-C, Chattanooga, Tennessee, 37402 (e-mail: clwilson@tva.gov), Roy V. Carter, Tennessee Valley Authority, Mail Stop CEB 4C-M, Muscle Shoals, Alabama, 35662 (e-mail: rvcarter@tva.gov) or Bruce Yeager, Tennessee Valley Authority, 400 West Summit Hill Drive, Mail Stop WT 8C-K, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902 (e-mail: blyeager@tva.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The proposal to renew the operating licenses for the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant (BFN) was part of a system-wide evaluation of future power needs. A range of options to meet those needs was evaluated in TVA's Integrated Resource Plan and Environmental Impact Statement, *Energy Vision 2020*, released on December 21, 1995.

The Final Environmental Statement for BFN was published in 1972. BFN was TVA's first nuclear power plant. The facility is located on an 840-acre tract adjacent to Wheeler Reservoir in Limestone County, Alabama, 10 miles southwest of Athens, Alabama. BFN has three General Electric boiling water reactors and associated turbine-generators that can produce more than 3,000 megawatts (MW) of power. Unit 1 began commercial operation in August 1974, Unit 2 in 1975 and Unit 3 in 1977. An extended shutdown of all units at Browns Ferry began in 1985 to review the TVA nuclear power program. Unit 2 returned to service in May 1991 and Unit 3 in November 1995. Unit 1 has been idled since 1985, and changes would be necessary prior to restarting the unit. The current operating characteristics of Units 2 and 3 are considered representative of future operations at Browns Ferry because of the changes in personnel, procedures, and equipment that occurred during and following the extended regulatory outage which began in 1985. For example, since return to service from the regulatory outage, Units 2 and 3

have performed well with consistently higher levels of availability and generating capacity than before the outage.

Proposed Action

TVA proposes to submit an application to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) requesting renewal of BFN operating licenses. Renewal of the current operating licenses would permit operation for an additional twenty years past the current (original) 40-year operating license terms which expire in 2014 and 2016 for Units 2 and 3, respectively. The Unit 1 operating license expires in 2013. License renewal of the operating BFN facilities does not involve new major construction or modifications beyond normal maintenance and minor refurbishment.

The SEIS will also examine the impacts associated with the possible recovery and restart of Unit 1, which has been in a non-operational status for 15 years. Among the impacts to be examined in this SEIS are those resulting from thermal (heat) discharges to Wheeler Reservoir associated with three-unit operation. The cooling capacity necessary to mitigate thermal impacts under the various alternatives would also be examined in the SEIS. Other aspects of the actions under consideration include the impacts associated with a spent fuel storage facility and a few new office buildings.

Independent of the matters considered in the SEIS, TVA is considering a project which would uprate the maximum operating power level of Units 2 and 3 to 120 percent of their originally licensed power levels. If this project is approved, the various alternatives in the SEIS will be modified as appropriate to reflect the higher operating levels. If Unit 1 is returned to service, it is currently contemplated that it would also be operated at 120 percent of its originally licensed power level. Additional information about the uprate project is available from the contacts listed above.

Range of Alternatives

As required by Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (40 CFR 1502.14), TVA will evaluate a reasonable range of alternatives in this SEIS. Action alternatives TVA is currently considering include license extensions for Units 2 and 3 to continue power operation for an additional 20 years, and the possible return to service of Unit 1 with a 20-year license extension. TVA will also consider a "no action" alternative which would be a decision by the TVA Board of Directors to not

pursue license renewal. Under the no action alternative the plant would cease to produce power and TVA would choose one of the decommissioning options. Under this alternative, the power no longer being produced by Browns Ferry may or may not be generated or obtained by other means.

Preliminary Identification of Environmental Issues

This SEIS will discuss the need to continue to operate the plant and will describe the existing environmental, cultural, recreational, and socioeconomic resources. The SEIS will consider the potential environmental impacts resulting from refurbishment, operation and maintenance of the existing facilities, as well as any additional impacts from returning Unit 1 to service. TVA's evaluation of environmental impacts to resources will include, but not necessarily be limited to, the potential impacts on air quality, surface and ground water quality and resources, vegetation, wildlife, aquatic ecology, endangered and threatened species, floodplains, wetlands and wetland wildlife, aesthetics and visual resources, land use, cultural and historic resources, light, noise, socioeconomic, transportation, spent fuel management, and radiological impacts. These concerns and other important issues identified during the scoping process will be addressed as appropriate in the SEIS.

Additionally, TVA will review the Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants (GEIS), NUREG-1437, in which the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) considered the environmental effects of renewing nuclear power plant operating licenses for a 20-year period (results are codified in 10 CFR Part 51). The GEIS identifies 92 environmental issues and reaches generic conclusions on environmental impacts for 69 of those issues that apply to all plants or to plants with specific design or site characteristics. It is expected that the generic assessment in NRC's EIS would be relevant to the assessment of impacts of the proposed actions at the Browns Ferry Plant. Information from NRC's EIS that is relevant to the current assessment would be incorporated by reference following the procedures described in 40 CFR 1502.21. Alternatively, TVA may choose to tier off this EIS after first adopting this EIS in accordance with 40 CFR 1506.3. Additional plant-specific review would likely be necessary for the remaining issues, which are encompassed by the range of resource issue areas identified above.

Public Participation

This Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) is being prepared to provide the public an opportunity to provide input to TVA's assessment of the environmental impacts of the suite of proposals at BFN including the request for license renewal and the possible return to service of Unit 1. The SEIS will also serve to inform the public and the decision-makers of the reasonable alternatives that would minimize adverse impacts.

The scoping process will include both interagency and public scoping. The agencies expected to participate in interagency scoping include the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, various State of Alabama agencies including the Department of Environmental Management, and other federal, state and local agencies as appropriate.

The public is invited to submit written comments or e-mail comments on the scope of this SEIS no later than the date given under the **DATES** section of this notice.

Comments may also be provided in an oral or written format at the public scoping meeting. TVA will conduct a public meeting on the scope of the SEIS in Limestone County, Alabama, on Tuesday, March 6, 2001. The meeting will be held at the Aerospace Technology Building Auditorium on the campus of Calhoun State Community College on Highway 31 North. Registration for the meeting will be from 6 to 6:30 p.m. There will be visual displays and information handouts available during the registration period. The meeting will begin with brief presentations by TVA staff explaining the SEIS process and the proposed license renewal project. Following these presentations there will be group discussions facilitated by staff of TVA and Calhoun State Community College to record the issues and concerns that the public believes should be considered in the SEIS.

Upon consideration of the scoping comments, TVA will develop alternatives and identify important environmental issues to be addressed in the SEIS. Following analysis of the environmental consequences of each alternative, TVA will prepare a draft SEIS for public review and comment. Notice of availability of the draft SEIS will be published in the **Federal Register**. TVA will solicit written comments on the draft SEIS through this **Federal Register** notice. Any meetings that are scheduled to comment on the draft SEIS will be announced by TVA.

TVA expects to release a final SEIS by January 2002.

Dated: February 9, 2001.

Kathryn J. Jackson,

Executive Vice President, River System Operations & Environment.

[FR Doc. 01-3823 Filed 2-14-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8120-08-U

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

Notice of Intent To Request From the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) of Six Current Public Collections of Information

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the FAA invites public comment on six currently approved public information collections which will be submitted to OMB for renewal.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before April 16, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed or delivered to the FAA at the following address: Ms. Judy Street, Room 613, Federal Aviation Administration, Standards and Information Division, APF-100, 800 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20591.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Judy Street at the above address or on (202) 267-9895.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FAA solicits comments on the following six current collections of information in order to evaluate the necessity of the collection, the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden, the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected, and possible ways to minimize the burden of the collection. Following are short synopses of the information collection activities which will be submitted to OMB for review and request for renewal:

1. 2120-0001, Notice of Proposed Construction or Alteration and Notice of Actual Construction or Alteration, and Project Status Request. Federal regulations require all persons to report proposed or actual construction/alteration of structures affecting air safety. The reporting requirements as prescribed in 14 CFR Part 77 affects any persons or business planning to construct or alter a structure that may affect air safety. The information is used to ensure the safe and efficient use of the navigable airspace by aircraft. The

[Federal Register: December 14, 2001 (Volume 66, Number 241)]

[Notices]

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From the Federal Register Online via GPO Access [wais.access.gpo.gov]

[DOCID:fr14de01-44]

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[ER-FRL-6624-5]

Environmental Impact Statements; Notice of Availability

Responsible Agency: Office of Federal Activities, General Information (202) 564-7167 or www.epa.gov/oeca/ofa.

Weekly receipt of Environmental Impact Statements

Filed December 03, 2001 Through December 07, 2001

Pursuant to 40 CFR 1506.9.

EIS No. 010506, DRAFT EIS, AFS, UT, Quitchupah Creek Road Project, Construct a Public Road, To Provide Public Access from SR-10 to the Acord Lakes Road, Application for Right-of-Way, Fishlake National Forest, Sevier County Special Services District (SSD), Sevier and Emery Counties, UT, Comment Period Ends: February 15, 2002, Contact: Linda Jackson (435) 896-9233.

EIS No. 010507, FINAL EIS, COE, ND, Maple River Dam and Reservoir, Construction and Operation, Flood Control, Cass County Joint Water Resource District, Cass County, ND, Wait Period Ends: January 14, 2002, Contact: Robert Nebel (402) 221-4621.

EIS No. 010508, DRAFT EIS, FHW, WV, US-340 Transportation Corridor Improvement Study, Implementation, Proposal to Improve US 340 from the four-lane Section of the Charles-Town Bypass, Jefferson County, WV, Comment Period Ends: February 08, 2002, Contact: Thomas Smith (304) 347-5928.

EIS No. 010509, DRAFT EIS, COE, AR, Greers Ferry Lake Shoreline Management Plan (SMP), Implementing Revision to Replace the 1994 Shore Management Plan, Revision include Zoning of Limited Development Areas, Vegetation Modification Provisions for Grandfathered Docks and Restrictions on Boats, Van Buren, Cleburne, Searcy, Stone, White, Independence and Pope Counties, AR, Comment Period Ends: January 28, 2002, Contact: Patricia Anslow (501) 324-5028.

EIS No. 010510, FINAL EIS, AFS, MT, Tobacco Root Vegetation Management Plan, Restore and Maintain a Mix of Vegetation, Beaverhead-Deer Lodge National Forest, Madison Ranger District, Madison County, MT, Wait Period Ends: January 14, 2002, Contact: Jan M. Bowey (406) 842-5432.

EIS No. 010511, FINAL EIS, APH, Fruit Fly Cooperative Control Program, Eradication Program, Implementation, Wait Period Ends: January 14, 2002, Contact: Harold T. Smith (301) 734-6742. This document is available on the Internet at: <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppd/es/ppq/ffeis.pdf>

EIS No. 010512, FINAL SUPPLEMENT, COE, CA, Prado Dam Water Conversion Plan, Implementation, New Information Concerning New Modified Flood Protection Features, Remaining Features of the Santa Ana River Project (SARP) and Stabilization of the Bluff Toe at Norco Bluffs, Riverside, Orange and San Bernardino Counties, CA, Wait Period Ends: January 14, 2002, Contact: Ms. Hayle Lovan (213) 452-3863.

EIS No. 010513, DRAFT EIS, FHW, OR, Lincoln Bypass Construction, South of Industrial Boulevard to North of Riosa Road, Funding and U.S. Army COE Section 404 Permit Issuance, Placer County, CA, Comment Period Ends: January 28, 2002, Contact: Maiser Khaled (916) 498-5020.

EIS No. 010514, FINAL EIS, USN, ME, South Weymouth Naval Air Station, Disposal and Reuse, Norfolk and Plymouth Counties, MA, Wait Period

Ends: February 11, 2002, Contact: Robert K. Ostermueller (610) 595-0759.

EIS No. 010515, FINAL EIS, HUD, CA, North Hollywood Arts and Entertainment District Project, Construction and Operation, North Hollywood Redevelopment Project, City of Los Angeles, and Los Angeles County, CA, wait Period Ends: January 14, 2002, Contact: Mr. Tony Kochinas (213) 847-4307.

EIS No. 010516, DRAFT EIS, FHWA, OR, South Medford Interchange Project, Interchange Project, Relocation on I-5 south of its current location at Barnett Road, Funding, Jackson County, OR, Comment Period Ends: January 14, 2002, Contact: John Gernhauser (503) 399-5749. Due to an Administrative Error by the FHWA the above DEIS was not properly filed with the USEPA. FHWA has confirmed that distribution of the DEIS was made available to federal agencies and interested parties for a 45-Day Comment Period Ending on 12/03/2001. FHWA has Extended the Comment Period for 30-Days Ending 01/14/2002. For further information contact Mr. Greg Holthoff at 503-986-3504.

EIS No. 010517, DRAFT EIS, FRC, WA, Georgia Strait Crossing Pipeline (LP) Project, Construction and Operation, To Transport Natural Gas from the Canadian Border near Sumas, WA to US/Canada Border at Boundary Pass in the Strait of Georgia, Docket Nos. CP01-176-000 and CP01-179-000, Whatcom and San Juan Counties, WA, Comment Period Ends: February 04, 2002, Contact: Linwood A. Watson (202) 208-0400.

EIS No. 010518, FINAL EIS, IBR, WA, Potholes Reservoir Resource Management Plan, Implementation, COE Section 404 and NPDES Permits, Moses Lake, Grant County, WA, wait Period Ends: January 14, 2002, Contact: Jim Blanchard (509) 754-0226.

- EIS No. 010519, DRAFT EIS, TVA, TN, KY, MS, AL, GA, NC, Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, Operating License Renewal, To Extend Operation of Units 2 and 3, and Potentially Unit 1, Athens, Limestone County, AL, Comment Period Ends: January 30, 2002, Contact: Bruce L. Yeager (865) 632-8051.

EIS No. 010520, FINAL SUPPLEMENT, NPS, AZ, Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument General Management Plan and Development Concept Plan Implementation, Portion of the Sonoran Desert, Pima County, AZ, wait Period Ends: January 14, 2002, Contact: William E. Wellman (520) 387-7661.

EIS No. 010521, FINAL EIS, AFS, MT, Gold/Boulder/Sullivan (GBS), Implementation of Timber Harvest and Associated Activities Prescribed Burning, Kootenai National Forest, Rexford Ranger District, Lincoln County, MT, wait Period Ends: January 14, 2002, Contact: Ron Komac (406) 296-2536.

EIS No. 010522, FINAL EIS, COE, OH, Ashtabula River and Harbor Dredging and Disposal Project, Design, Construction, Operation and Maintenance, Ashtabula River Partnership (ARP), Ashtabula County, OH, wait Period Ends: January 14,

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2002, Contact: John Mahan (440) 964-0277.

Amended Notices

EIS No. 010305, DRAFT SUPPLEMENT, FAA, MN, Flying Cloud Airport, Substantive Changes to Alternatives and New Information, Extension of the Runways 9R/27L and 9L/27R, Long-Term Comprehensive Development, In the City of Eden Prairie, Hennepin County, MN, Comment Period Ends: December 07, 2001, Contact: Glen Orcutt (612) 713-4354. Revision of FR Notice Published on 08/24/2001: CEQ. Comment Period Ending on 12/07/2001 has been Extended to 01/31/2002.

EIS No. 010401, DRAFT SUPPLEMENT, FHWA, MI, US-31 Petoskey Area Improvement Study, To Reduce Congestion on US-31 in the City of Petoskey and Resort and Bear Creek Townships, COE Section 404 Permit, Emmet County, MI, Comment Period Ends: December 17, 2001, Contact: