December 17, 2013

Mr. Christopher M. Fallon, Vice President
Nuclear Deployment
Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC
EC09D / P.O. Box 1006
Charlotte, NC 29065

SUBJECT: FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR WILLIAM STATES LEE III NUCLEAR STATION UNITS 1 AND 2 COMBINED LICENSES APPLICATION REVIEW

Dear Mr. Fallon:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) as a cooperating agency have completed NUREG-2111, "Final Environmental Impact Statement for Combined Licenses (COLs) for William States Lee III Nuclear Station Units 1 and 2". In addition to the electronic copies of the final environmental impact statement (EIS) and reader's guide, enclosed is a copy of the *Federal Register* Notice of Availability. This notice advises the public that the final EIS is available for review and provides information on where to obtain copies.

As discussed in the final EIS**,** the NRC staff's recommendation related to the environmental aspects of the proposed action is that the combined licenses should be issued. This recommendation is based on:

(1) the Environmental Report (ER) submitted by the applicant; (2) consultation with Federal, State, Tribal and local agencies; (3) the NRC and USACE staffs' independent review; (4) the consideration of public comments received during the environmental review; and (5) the assessments summarized in the final EIS, including the potential mitigation measures identified in the ER and the final EIS.

In addition, in making its recommendation, the NRC staff has concluded that none of the alternative sites is obviously superior to the William States Lee III Nuclear Station Units 1 and 2 sites.

A separate Notice of Filing of the final EIS will be placed in the *Federal Register* through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Ms. Patricia Vokoun, Environmental Project Manager, by phone at 301-415-3470 or via email to Patricia.Vokoun@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Mark S. Delligatti, Deputy Director
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

Docket Nos.: 52-018 and 52-019

Enclosures:
As stated

cc: w/enclosures
See next page

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Division of New Reactor Licensing
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Rebekah Krieg, PNL Team Lead (Rebekah.Krieg@pnl.gov)
Terri Miley, PNL Deputy Team Lead (Terri.Miley@pnl.gov)
Richard Darden, US Army Corps (Richard.Darden@usace.army.mil)

ADAMS ACCESSION NUMBER: ML13324A034

OFFICE	PM:EPB1 DNRL:NRO	LA:EPB1: DNRL:NRO	OGC	ABC:EPB1: DNRL:NRO	DD:DNRL: NRO
NAME	PVokoun	JHennigan	KRoach	MSutton	MSDelligatti
DATE	11 / 17 /2013	11 /19 /2013	12 / 4 /2013	12 / 12 /2013	12 / 17 /2013

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Lee Environmental Mailing List
cc:

Mr. Phillip Anderson
PO Box 710
Mtn Horn, NC 28758-0710

Mr. Larry Armstrong
301 Zima Park Dr.
Spartanburg, SC 29301

Ms. Deb Arnason
360 Webb Road
Wadesboro, NC 28170

Mr. J. Holland Belue, Asst. County Administrator
Cherokee County Council
210 N. Limestone Street
Gaffney, SC 29340

Mr. David Bernhart
Asst. Regional Administrator for Protected Resources
National Marine Fisheries Service
Southeast Regional Office
263 13th Ave., South
St. Petersburg, FL 33701

Mr. Ray Blanton
118 Stacy Drive
Gaffney, SC 29341

Ms. Lily L. Blue
124 Riverport Drive
Clemson, SC 29631

Mr. Paul Boger
PO Box 97
York, SC 29631

Mr. Will Bowers
145 Mildred Avenue
Gaffney, SC 29341

Ms. Susan Broadhead
328 Martins Creek Rd.
Barnardsville, NC 28709

Mr. Stephen M. Cain
3231 Glenn Springs Rd.
Spartanburg, SC 29302

Mr. Mark A. Caldwell
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Ecological Services
178 Croghan Spur Road, Suite 200
Charleston, NC 29407

Mr. Dick Carr Jr.
16 Fourmile Branch Lane
Spartanburg, SC 29302

Mr. Ben L. Clary
County Administrator
Cherokee County Council
210 N. Limestone Street
Gaffney, SC 29340

Mr. Michael Cook, Executive Director
United South
and Eastern Federation of Tribes
Stewarts Ferry Pike
Suite 100
Nashville, TN 37214

Mr. David Cordeau
105 N. Pine Street
PO Box 1636
Spartanburg, SC 29304

Ms. Claudine Cremer
260 Dula Springs Road
Weaverville, NC 28787

Mr. Brian Crissey
1689 Silver Creek Rd.
Mill Spring, NC 28756

Ms. Mary Crockett
Broad Scenic River Advisory Council
South Carolina
Dept of Natural Resources Land Water
and Conservation Division
PO Box 167
Suite 354
Columbia, SC 29202

Ms. Emily Dale
State Historic Preservation Office
South Carolina Department of Archives
& History
8301 Parkland Road
Columbia, SC 29223

Lee Environmental Mailing List
cc:

Ms. Cindy Dohner
Regional Director
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Southeast Region
1875 Century Blvd, Suite 400
Atlanta, GA 30345

Mr. Phillip Ervin
412 Colonial Avenue
Gaffney, SC 29340

Mr. R. Michael Gandy
SC Dept of Health
& Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Mr. Steven Gilman
18 Birchwood Lane
Asheville, NC 28805

Mr. Chris Goudreau
North Carolina Wildlife Resources
Commission
Habitat Conservation Program
3855 Idlewild Road
Kemersville, NC 27284

Ms. Peggy Guy
177 Haywood Knolls Drive
Hendersonville, NC 28791

Dr. Wenonah G. Haire
Tribal Historic Officer
Catawba Indian Nation
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
1536 Tom Steven Road
Rock Hill, SC 29730

Cecil & Cynthia Hale
668 Wofford Road
Gaffney, SC 29340

Mr. Andy Halligan
350 East Main Street, Suite 500
Spartansburg, SC 29302

Ms. Judith Hallrock
11 Digges Road
Asheville, NC 28805

Mr. Mike Hamrick
138 Alpine Drive
Gaffney, SC 29341

Mr. Hillbert Hansborogh, Jr.
244 Keith Haven Lane
Columbus, NC 28722

Chris Hardy
York Regional Chamber of Commerce
PO Box 590
Rock Hill, SC 29731

Mr. Jeff Harmon
102 Stonecrest Lane
Gaffney, SC 29341

Mr. Ray Hearne
91 Bald Creek Rd.
Leicester, NC 28748

Mr. Bruce Henderson
600 S. Tryon St.
Charlotte, NC 28203

Mr. David Hogue, Mayor
Town of Blacksburg
PO Box 144
Blacksburg, SC 29702

Ms. Cathy Holt
43 Vermont Ct., #B7
Asheville, NC 28806

Rev. Posy Jackson
145 Old Mt. Olivet Rd.
Zirconia, NC 28790

Ms. Virginia Jenkins
P.O. Box 2562
Spartanburg, SC 29304

Mr. David G. Johnson
Morgan Corporation
PO Box 3555
Spartansburg, SC 29304

Lee Environmental Mailing List
cc:

Ms. Elizabeth Johnson
Director, Historical Services
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
South Carolina Department
of Archives and History
8301 Parklane Road
Columbia, SC 29223

Mr. Mike Jolly
P.O. Box 11706
Rockhill, SC 29708

Mr. Henry L. Jolly, Mayor
City of Gaffney
PO Box 2109
Gaffney, SC 29342

Ms. Leah Karpen
400 Charlotte Street, Suite 803
Asheville, NC 28801-1452

Ms. Valerie LeVander
68 Niles Drive
Hendersonville, NC 28792

Mr. Lanny Littlejohn
210 Deerwood
Pacalet, SC 29372

Thomas J. LoVullo, Chief
Aquatic Resources Branch
Div. of Hydropower Administration and
Compliance
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20426

Ms. Ramona McConney
NEPA Program Office
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,
Region 4
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.
Mail Code: 9T25
Atlanta, GA 30303-8960

Mr. David McEntire
1085 Bridges Rd.
Blacksburg, SC 29702

Ms. Susie Mitcham
P.O. Box 755
Greenville, SC 29602

Chief Michelle Mitchum
Pine Hill Indian Community
Carolina Indian Heritage Association
485 Limit Street
Orangeburg, SC 29115

Mr. Charles Moss
PO Box 217
Sharon, SC 29742

Rep. Dennis Moss
South Carolina House District 29
306 Silver Circle
Gaffney, SC 29340

Charles and Evelyn Nelson
119 Clary Drive
Gaffney, SC 29341

Mr. Reid Nelson, Director
Office of Federal Agency Programs
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
Old Post Office Building
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 809
Washington, DC 20004

Chief Gene Norris
Piedmont American Indian Assn
Lower Eastern Cherokee Nation SC
3688 Warrior Creek Church Road
Gray Court, SC 29645

Mr. Lewis Patrie, MD
99 Eastmoore Drive
Asheville, NC 28805

Mark and Penny Patterson
125 Scenic Drive
Blacksburg, SC 29702

Mr. Joseph Patterson
100 Rains Road
Blacksburg, SC 29702

Sen. Harvey S. Peeler, Jr.
PO Box 742
Gaffney, SC 29342

Lee Environmental Mailing List
cc:

Mr. Billy Pennington
1566 Victory Trail
Gaffney, SC 29340

Mr. Robert D. Perry
Director
Office of Environmental Programs
SC Dept of Natural Resouces
1000 Assembly Street, RM 310A
PO Box 167
Columbia, SC 29202

Ms. Michelle Pounds
Chief Executive Officer
Rep Pine Hill Indian Community
Carolina Indian Heritage Association
4055 Coburg Lane
Orangeburg, SC 29115

Ms. Sandra Reinhardt
THPO Archaeology Department
Catawba Indian Nation
1536 Tom Steven Road
Rock Hill, SC 29730

Mr. Don Richardson
577 Windover Dr.
Brevard, NC 28712

Ms. Alicia Rowe
SC Dept of Health
and Environmental Control
Bureau of Water
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201-1708

Ms. Amanda R. Rowe
417 W. Pine St.
Blacksburg, SC 29702

Mr. Garrett Scott
300 East Main Street
Suite 500
Spartansburg, SC 29302

Mr. Michael Seaman-Huynh
SC Office of Regulatory Staff
1441 Main Street
Suite 300
Columbia, SC 29201

Mr. Coleman Smith
P.O. Box 2551
Asheville, NC 28802

Mr. Pete Smith
P.O. Box 205
Drayton, SC 29333

Mr. Clyde E. "Butch" Smith, Manager
Cleveland County Water
439 Casar Lawndale Road
PO Box 788
Lawndale, NC 28090

Ms. Laura Sorensen
40 Green Valley Rd.
Asheville, NC 28806

Frank & Donna Sossaman
190 Sossamon Loop
Gaffney, SC 29340

Mr. Willard Steele
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Seminole Tribe of Florida
HS 61 Box 21A
Clewiston, FL 33440

Mr. James R. Taylor
Gaffney City Administrator
PO Box 2109
Gaffney, SC 29342

Mr. Bill Thomas
PO Box 272
Cedar Mountain, NC 28718

Ms. Ellen Thomas
P.O. Box 26
Tryon, NC 28782

Ms. Ruth Thomas
354 Woodland Dr.
Columbus, NC 28722

Rev. JoAnn Tomberlin
651 Old Mt. Olivet Rd.
Zirconia, NC 28790

Lee Environmental Mailing List
cc:

Mr. Russell Townsend
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
PO Box 455
Cherokee, NC 28719

Ms. Janet Tsiknias
133 Cherokee National Hwy.
Gaffney, SC 29341

Chief Glenna J. Wallace
Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
PO Box 350
Seneca, MO 64804

Mr. Pace Wilbur
National Marine Fisheries Service
Habitat Conservation Division
219 Fort Johnson Road
Charleston, SC 29412

Ms. Debralee Williams
9 Neil Price Ave
Black Mountain, NC 28711

Mr. Clint Wolfe
Citizens for Nuclear Technology Awareness
1204 Whiskey Road, Suite B
Aiken, SC 29803

Ms. Vicki S. Wooten
Executive Assistant
Office of the Secretary
SC Dept of Commerce
1201 Main Street, Suite 1600
Columbia, SC 29201

Ms. Sue Yeary
P.O. Box 501
Blacksburg, SC 29702

Dr. Joseph W. Zdenek
752 Harrell St.
Rock Hill, SC 28730

Mr. Chuck Zimmerman
28 Waterford Ct.
Atlanta, GA 30328

Lee Environmental Mailing List
Email:

John.Aedo@ferc.gov (John Aedo)
ehpa@bellsouth.net (Patricia Allison)
daya@invirodesign.com (Daya Apunte)
larmstrong@smeinc.com (Larry Armstrong)
maugspurger@smeinc.com (Mark Augspurger)
sara@cleanenergy.org (Sara Barczak)
maubar53@bellsouth.net (Barbara Barnett)
billbe@charter.net (William Beach)
dbean@enercon.com (David Bean)
all@aconsultingengineer.com (Philip J. Bisesi)
rblanton118@bellsouth.net (Ray Blanton)
stevenblanton@gmail.com (Steven Blanton, Jr.)
Rachael.bliss@yahoo.com (Rachael Bliss)
paulboger@greateryorkchamber.com (Paul Boger)
bolinj@bellsouth.net (James W. Bolin, Sr.)
sbreckheimer@gmail.com (Steve Breckheimer)
aebridges@msn.com (Amy Elliot Bridges)
s_broadhead@hotmail.com (Susan Broadhead)
timothy.brooks@us.nestle.com (Timothy Brooks)
buscarino.john@gmail.com (John Buscarino)
stephenmcain@yahoo.com (Stephen Cain)
richardcarr@charter.net (Dick Carr Jr.)
sarah.chisholm@gmail.com (Sarah Chisholm)
tclarkpsy@yahoo.com (Terrence Clark, MD)
cclaunch@duke-energy.com (Chuck Claunch)
tomclements329@cs.com (Tom Clements)
pcoffey01@gmail.com (Peter Coffey)
grwa2011@yahoo.com (Sky Conard)
cookj@sccsc.edu (Jim Cook)
icooper@wpceng.com (Ivan Cooper)
ennagiarc@gmail.com (Anne Craig)
cpcremer@frontier.com (Claudine Cremer)
brian.crissey@yahoo.com (Brian Crissey)
emjohnson@scdah.state.sc.us (Elizabeth Johnson)
joanwdrake@aol.com (Joan Drake)
nsedwar@regstaff.sc.gov (Nanette Edwards)
gfair@clemson.edu (Gabriel Fair)
mark.farris@yorkcountygov.com (Mark Farris)
mikeforrester@schouse.gov (Rep. Mike Forrester)
fossmj@appstate.edu (Matthew Foss)
jpfraedr@duke-energy.com (Lyn Fraedrich)
pfredrickson@duke-energy.com (Paul Fredrickson)
Dan@invirodesign.com (Dan Gamble)
Steven.L.Gilman@gmail.com (Steven Gilman)
chris.goudreau@ncwildlife.org (Chris Goudreau)
worldwidewellness@madriver.com (Laura Grala)
Agrant.pa@gmail.com (Anna Grant)
jwgmaps@gmail.com (Chip Green)
ben@scwf.org (Ben Gregg)
bguild@mindspring.com (Bob Guild)
peggyguy@morrisbb.net (Peggy Guy)
hale.kendall@gmail.com (Kendall Hale)

Lee Environmental Mailing List
Email:

mandy@cleanenergy.org (Mandy Hancock)
stonecrestapts@bellsouth.net (Jeff Harmon)
jeanhedges2004@hotmail.com (Jean Hedges)
Bhenderson@charlotteobserver.com (Bruce Henderson)
Katie@cwfnc.org (Katie Hicks)
Lorena.hildebrandt@gmail.com (Lorena Hildebrandt)
hollingj@dnr.sc.gov (Julie Holling)
cathyfholt@gmail.com (Cathy Holt)
robfhow@gmail.com (Robert F. Howarth)
rhow@charter.net (Robert Howarth)
jaxon07@bellsouth.net (Posy Jackson)
majames@regstaff.sc.gov (M. Anthony James, P.E.)
mjolly@cityofrockhill.com (Mike Jolly)
jonesp@sccsc.edu (Para M. Jones)
skeller@cityofgaffney-sc.gov (Scott Keller)
kohler1122@yahoo.com (Elizabeth Kohler)
Larson_jean@hotmail.com (Jean Larson)
Laycock.kelly@epa.gov (Kelly Laycock)
jled43@chesnet.net (Judy Ledford)
richardL640@bellsouth.net (Richard LeVander)
david.lewis@pillsburylaw.com (David Lewis)
patmccall1@aol.com (Pat McCall)
mcconney.ramona@epamail.epa.gov (Ramona K. McConney)
David_mcentire@yahoo.com (David McEntire)
brian.mcintyre@areva.com (Brian McIntyre)
lisamcw2@gmail.com (Lisa McWherter)
Julia.millar@gmail.com (Julia Millar)
dmillsclan@bellsouth.net (Randy Mills)
bmina@morgan.corp.com (Robert Mina)
knmominee@firstenergycorp.com (Katharine N. Mominee)
comcher@bellsouth.net (Gene Moorhead)
dennismoss@schouse.gov (Rep. Dennis Moss)
dennismoss@schous.gov (Dennis Moss)
stevemoss@schouse.gov (Rep. Steve Moss))
ca.nelson@att.net (Charles Nelson)
Adam.nygaard@gmail.com (Adam Nygaard)
maryo@nirs.org (Mary Olson)
tervdog@mindspring.com (Ellen Pauly)
hperry@smeinc.com (Howard Perry)
Otis.Rawl@scchamber.net (Otis Rawl)
sandrar@ccppcrafts.com (Sandra Reinhardt)
karich321@yahoo.com (Kitty Katherine Richards)
nrichardson.me99@gtalumni.org (Nicole Richardson)
gaia@citcom.net (Don Richardson)
krobbs@cherokeechamber.org (Kayla Robbs)
roweam@dhec.sc.gov (Alicia Rowe)
Arowe@miller-rowe.com (Amanda R. Rowe)
Gerald.rudolph@gmail.com (Gerald Rudolph)
jwsaye@gmail.com (Jack Saye)
Darrell.scott@scchamber.net (Darrell Scott)
jlsimage@gmail.com (Jonah Simmons)
wesmith2@bellsouth.net (William E. Smith)

Lee Environmental Mailing List
Email:

seawind161@att.net (Pete Smith)
newsouthnetwork@gmail.com (Coleman Smith)
kshoesmith@charter.net (Karen Smith)
hbsmith1207@bellsouth.net (Brian and Kay Smith)
dale.smith@duke-energy.com (Dale Smith)
LSRedoak@gmail.com (Laura Sorensen)
Timspencer9@yahoo.com (Tim Spencer)
dsteen@comporium.net (Darin Steen)
bstill@morgan-corp.com (Bow Still)
distroupe@dukeenergy.com (Dennis Stroupe)
dsulock@unca.edu (Dot Sulock)
dcswinton.campaign@gmail.com (D.C. Swinton)
et@prop1.org (Ellen Thomas)
Amber.Thomas@SunTrust.com (Amber Thomas)
Charles.thornton@airgas.com (Charles Thornton)
John.thrasher@duke-energy.com (John Thrasher)
Deborah.thrift@shawgrp.com (Deborah Thrift)
rathroneburg@duke-energy.com (Bob Throneburg)
htinnaro@gmail.com (Heather Tinnaro)
jate2531@gmail.com (JoAnn Tomberlin)
gaffrest@hotmail.com (Janet Tsiknias)
jtynan@upstateforever.org (John Tynan)
VejdaniV@dnr.sc.gov (Vivianne Vejdani)
waraksre@westinghouse.com (Rosemarie E. Waraks)
steve.ware@us.nestle.com (Steve Ware)
JASON.WATERS@gw.cherokee1.k12.sc.us (Jason Waters)
jwatts@charter.net (Jim Watts)
keith.webb@mcgillengineers.com (Keith Webb)
gayleshop@bellsouth.net (Gayle White)
cwilson@scdah.state.sc.us (Caroline Dover Wilson)
Robert.wylie@duke-energy.com (Robert Wylie)
joe.yanes@duke-energy.com (Joe Yanes)
ryoungblood@yorkcountychamber.com (Rob Youngblood)
jzdenek@comporium.net (Joseph Zdenek)
bredl@skybest.com (Louis Zeller)
czimmjr38@yahoo.com (Chuck Zimmerman)