

Response to DNR Data Request No. 1
Maryland Public Service Commission Case No. 9127
UniStar Nuclear Energy, LLC and UniStar Nuclear Operating Services, LLC

Question 1-8

Please provide further justification for the 251.2 acres of impacts to forests (Technical Report, page 5-44; calculated by summing all five bulleted forest types to be lost) and 14.3 acres of impacts to wetlands (Technical Report, page 5-58) that would result from construction of CCNPP Unit 3 on the South parcel (Option 4). As part of the justification, please provide separate environmental graphics for Option 2 (North parcel) and Option 4. These graphics should be based on aerial photographs that depict existing forest and mapped (delineated) wetlands resources, with the proposed Unit 3 facilities superimposed. Please also provide a concise table indicating acres of individual forest and wetlands impacts for each component of Unit 3 to facilitate thorough comparison for Options 2 and 4. In particular, provide concise justification for why the almost 12 acres of mature bottomland forest couldn't be avoided under Option 4.

RESPONSE

The site selection process consisted of numerous environmental criteria. The selection process is described in Appendix H of the "Cooling System Selection and Site Layout Study" (Site Layout Study).

As shown in the attached Figure 1 (also referred to in the response for Question 1-11), Option 2 (the North Parcel) is constrained on the south by the existing units (CCNPP Units 1 and 2), to the west by the existing transmission lines, and to the north by the existing property lines. The proposed site layout for Option 2 (North Parcel) would require significant intrusion into the Critical Area and would require significant grubbing, clearing, and cut and fill within this area. Most of the property north of the main access road (Calvert Cliffs Parkway) is heavily forested outside of the cleared land around the visitor center and security access point.

There is an estimated forested wetlands impact in excess of 25 acres for Option 2 (the North Parcel). However, no wetland delineations were performed for Option 2. No specific graphics or tabular comparisons for forest and wetland impacts were performed to support the Site Layout Study. By contrast, as indicated in Figure 1, Option 4 area land cover types are forest, grassed fields, and lawns. The proposed site layout has maximized the use of non-forested areas thereby reducing the impacts to forest while limiting intrusion into the Critical Area. Further reduction of impacts to forested areas is not practicable due to security and construction issues.

For the site layout described in Option 4, Section 5.6.3 of the CPCN Technical Report provides an impact assessment for each wetland area. Provided in each of these wetland areas (Section 5.6.3.2 through Section 5.6.3.10) is a description of the construction

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activity or structure(s) that would be impacting the specific wetland area. For example, Section 5.6.3.5 - Wetland Assessment Area IV contains a detailed description of the switchyard and justification for its size and location relative to the power block.