



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION III  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

APR 4 2006

Robert J. Barkanic, P.E.  
Director Environmental Management  
PPL Service Corp.  
Two North Ninth St. (GENTW-17)  
Allentown, PA 18101

Dear Mr. Barkanic:

I would like to take this opportunity to inform you of the current status regarding the Preliminary Assessment (PA) conducted at the Pennsylvania Power and Light Martins Creek power plant (PP&L) located in Lower Mount Bethel Township, Northampton County, Pennsylvania.

As a result of the PA Petition, the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region III conducted a PA and prepared a report pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), also known as Superfund. These tasks were performed as a result of a release of fly ash from PP&L in August 2005. A copy of the EPA Region III's Final Preliminary Assessment Report is enclosed for your review.

As detailed in the enclosed PA Report, direct observation and analytical data for surface water and sediment samples document an observed release from the site to the surface water migration pathway (the Delaware River). EPA's evaluation of current analytical results of samples collected downstream of the release indicate that no further federal action at the site is warranted at this time. EPA's evaluation of the groundwater analytical results from residential wells indicate that the fly ash release has not affected groundwater quality downgradient of the site. PPL continues to assess the Delaware River to address any pockets of fly ash that remain on the river bottom.

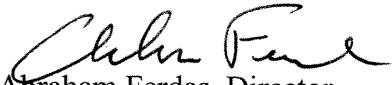
The results of our PA conclude that PP&L continues to proceed with the appropriate steps to achieve cleanup of the release under a Consent Order and Agreement with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP). On November 18, 2005, PADEP filed a lawsuit against PPL for damages to Pennsylvania's natural resources. PADEP, in conjunction with EPA Region III, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration have established a Natural Resource Damage Assessment team to ensure PPL continues to assess damages and undertake all necessary clean-up measures to the natural resources of the Delaware River.



Based on PP&L's efforts to date, along with other state and federal involvement, EPA Region III anticipates no need, at this time, to pursue further actions under CERCLA. However, if new information or conditions not previously known regarding PP&L are discovered that would warrant further Superfund consideration, or if the agencies involved with the cleanup request additional site assessment activities, our office will take appropriate actions.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 215-814-3160.

Sincerely,

  
Abraham Ferdas, Director  
Hazardous Site Cleanup Division

Enclosure