



# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance  
1849 C Street, NW - MS 2462 - MIB  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240



January 6, 2009

In Reply Refer To:  
ER No. 08/0444

Honorable Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street, N.E., Room 1A  
Washington, D.C. 20426

**RE: Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Sparrows Point LNG Terminal and Pipeline Project, FERC No. CP07-62-000, CP07-63-000, CP07-64-000, CP07-65-000; Baltimore, Harford, and Cecil Counties, Maryland; and Lancaster and Chester Counties, Pennsylvania**

Dear Secretary Bose:

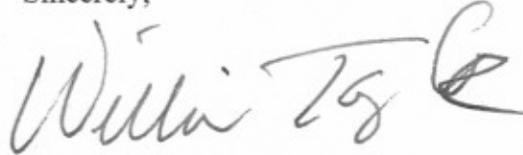
The Department of the Interior (Department) has reviewed the above-referenced FEIS, dated December 2008, regarding the proposed Sparrows Point LNG Terminal and Pipeline Project, a liquid natural gas (LNG) import terminal located near Dundalk, Maryland, and an 88-mile natural gas pipeline, located in Maryland (Baltimore, Harford, and Cecil Counties) and Pennsylvania (Lancaster and Chester Counties). AES Sparrows Point LNG, LLC, and Mid-Atlantic Express, LLC, propose to construct a new LNG marine terminal facility including a finger pier and unloading platform; breasting and mooring dolphins; a turning basin and entrance channel; navigation aids; a retractable security barrier; LNG storage tanks; process equipment; terminal appurtenant facilities; an 88-mile, 30-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline; a remote monitoring system; pipeline interconnections; mainline valve facilities; and pipeline appurtenant facilities.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, a Bureau of the Department, has determined that there are unanswered questions related to federally listed, endangered and threatened species that may be affected by this project. Consequently, the Service will be responding to you separately regarding Endangered Species Act concerns and potential consultation requirements. Until these matters are resolved, and Endangered Species Act section 7 consultation between the Service and the Commission is concluded, we recommend that the Commission withhold certification for this project.

Honorable Secretary Bose

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project. Please contact Jennifer Kagel of the Service's Pennsylvania Field Office at 814-234-4090 if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Willie Taylor" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Willie Taylor  
Director, Office of Environmental  
Policy and Compliance