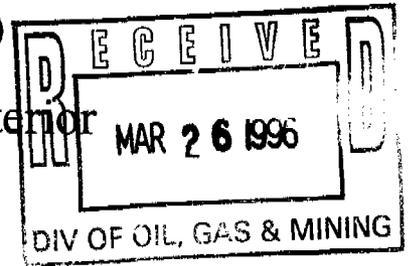




# United States Department of the Interior

## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

UTAH FIELD OFFICE  
LINCOLN PLAZA  
145 EAST 1300 SOUTH, SUITE 404  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84115



In Reply Refer To  
(CO/KS/NE/UT)

March 25, 1996

Susan M. White  
Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining  
355 West North Temple  
3 Triad Center, Suite 350  
Salt Lake City, UT 84180-1203

ACT/007/035 #2

RE: Sunnyside Cogeneration Associates, Sunnyside Refuse and Slurry Project

Dear Ms. White:

We have received your request for a list of endangered and threatened species that may occur in the area of influence of Sunnyside Cogeneration Associates proposed Sunnyside Refuse and Slurry project in sections 6 and 7 T.15S., R.14E. SLBM in Carbon County, Utah. This project is in the Price River drainage, a tributary of the Green River. Following is a list of endangered and threatened species which may occur in the area to be impacted by the proposed action:

Colorado squawfish	<u>Ptychocheilus lucius</u>
humpback chub	<u>Gila cypha</u>
bonytail chub	<u>Gila elegans</u>
razorback sucker	<u>Xyrauchen texanus</u>
black-footed ferret	<u>Mustela nigripes</u>
Peregrine Falcon	<u>Falco peregrinus</u>
bald eagle	<u>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</u>

In addition critical habitat has been designated for the Colorado squawfish, bonytail chub, humpback chub and razorback sucker in Green river at the mouth of the Price River.

Only a Federal Agency can enter into formal section 7 consultation with the Service. A Federal Agency may designate a non-Federal representative to conduct informal consultation or prepare a biological assessment by giving written notice to the Service of such a designation. The ultimate responsibility for compliance with section 7 remains with the Federal Agency.

The proposed action should be reviewed and a determination made if the action may affect any listed species or their critical habitat. If the determination is "may affect" for listed species, formal section 7 consultation should be requested by the Federal Agency to the

Copy Susan,  
Paul, Dan,  
Pam

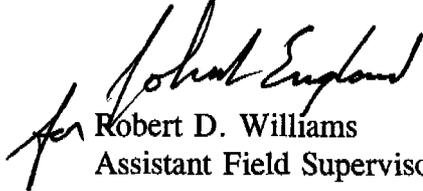
Assistant Field Supervisor at the address given above. At that time, the Federal Agency should provide this office with a copy of a biological assessment or any other relevant information that was used in reaching its conclusion.

Your attention is also directed to Section 7(d) of the Endangered Species Act, as amended, which underscores the requirement that the Federal agency or the applicant shall not make any irreversible or irretrievable commitment of resources during the consultation period which, in effect, would deny the formulation or implementation of reasonable and prudent alternatives regarding their actions on any endangered or threatened species.

Specific concerns that the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has about this project and its potential impacts on listed, proposed species and critical habitat as appropriate are as follows: (1) The impact of the proposed project on individuals and the occupied habitat of the bald eagle and peregrine falcon; (2) The presence of prairie dog colonies which may harbor populations of the black-footed ferret; and (3) The Fish and Wildlife Service has determined that water depletions from the Colorado River and its tributaries (including the Green River and its tributaries) contribute to the endangerment of the above listed fish species. The source and quantity of water used in the development and production of this proposed project should be determined. If the source of water is from surface sources, then these species should be considered affected by this proposed action.

If we can be of further assistance, please feel free to contact our office at (801) 524-5001.

Sincerely,

  
for Robert D. Williams  
Assistant Field Supervisor