



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

May 18, 1999

Mr. Max Evans
State Historic Preservation Officer
Utah State Historical Society
300 Rio Grande
Salt Lake City, Utah 84101

SUBJECT: INITIATION OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT SECTION
106 PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED PRIVATE FUEL STORAGE FACILITY

Dear Mr. Evans:

Private Fuel Storage, Limited Liability Corporation (PFS) submitted a license application, dated June 20, 1997, to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to receive, transfer, package, and possess spent nuclear fuel in an independent spent fuel storage facility (ISFSI) on the reservation of the Skull Valley Band of Goshute Indians. In addition to receiving a license from NRC, PFS must receive a right-of-way from the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for construction and use of a rail line over public lands to transport spent nuclear fuel to the ISFSI and approval from U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) for a proposed lease agreement between the Skull Valley Band of Goshute Indians and PFS. The rail line would traverse land that is included within the BLM Pony Express Resource Management Plan (RMP). The current Pony Express RMP does not allow for major right-of-ways such as a rail line in this area and would require an amendment to the RMP prior to granting the requested right-of-way.

NRC, BIA, and BLM have determined that each of these federal actions constitutes undertakings as defined in Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations (36 CFR), Section 800.2 (o). Because NRC's, BIA's, and BLM's required actions for the construction and operation of the PFS facility are related, the agencies have agreed to cooperate in the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) for these actions. Similarly, the agencies have also agreed to participate jointly in the Section 106 process and other required consultations. The areas of potential effect (APE) for the three undertakings include:

1. The ISFSI site: 820 acres located in the northwest corner of the reservation in Township 5 South (T5S), Range 8 West (R8W), all of Section 6, and portions of Sections 5, 7, and 8.
2. The utility corridor and access road: 202 acres from the eastern boundary of the ISFSI site to the Skull Valley Road. The utility corridor would be located in T5S, R8W, Sections 7, 8, and 9.
3. The transportation routes:
 - a. Rail Line: Proposed to originate at Skunk Ridge and run along the base of the Cedar Mountains to the ISFSI site. The proposed rail line would be located in T1N, R9W Sections 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 27, and 34; T1S, R9W Sections 3, 10, 15, 22, 27, and 34; T2S R9W Sections 3, 10, 15, 22, 27, and 34; T3S, R9W Sections 3, 10, 15, 22, 27, and 34; T4S, R9W

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3, 10, 15, 22, 27, and 34; T5S, R9W Sections 1, 2, and 3; and T5S, R8W Section 6.

- b. Intermodal transfer point (ITP): The ITP will be used to transfer fuel from rail cars to heavy/haul trailers for shipment to the ISFSI site via Skull Valley Road. The ITP will be located approximately 1.8 miles west of the intersection of I-80 and Skull Valley Road (T1S, R8W Sections 1 and 12).

Enclosed is a map which shows the APE.

Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(a) (ii), NRC, BIA, and BLM are requesting the views of the State Historic Preservation Officer on further actions to identify historic properties that may be affected by each agency's undertaking. In accordance with 36 CFR 800.4(a)(i) and (iii), a review of available information on historic properties in the APE is being conducted as part of the EIS preparation, and the agencies conducted public scoping to solicit information on environmental issues, including cultural resources, related to the PFS proposal.

After assessing the information provided by you and the information received from other interested parties, NRC, BLM, and BIA will determine if any further actions are necessary to identify historic properties under the provisions of 36 CFR 800.4 (2).

If you have any questions, please contact Scott Flanders, Senior Environmental Project Manager, at (301) 415-1172.

Sincerely,

original /s/ by

Mark S. Delligatti, Senior Project Manager
Spent Fuel Licensing Section
Licensing and Inspection Directorate
Spent Fuel Project Office
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No.: 72-22

Enclosure: As stated

cc: Service Lists

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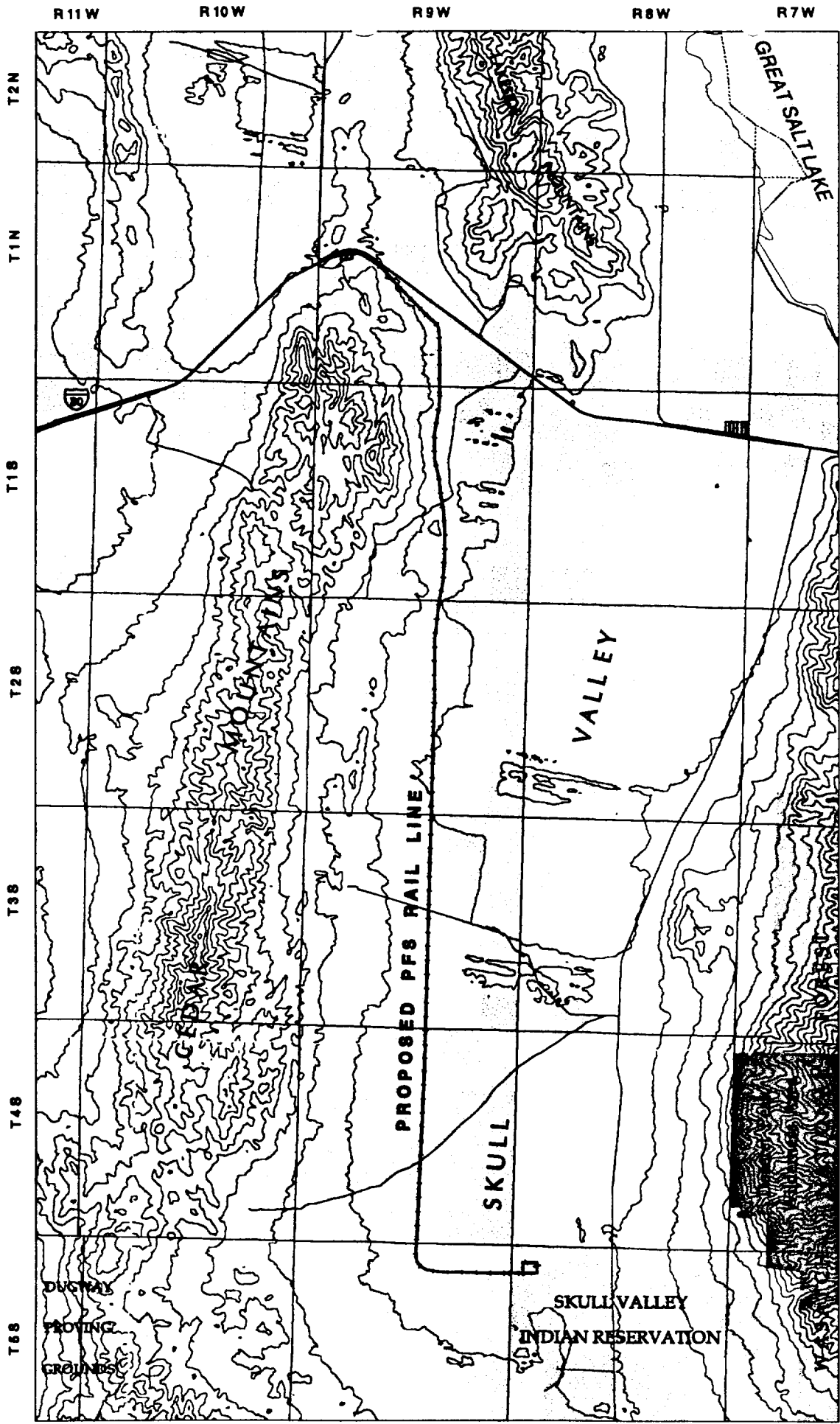
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
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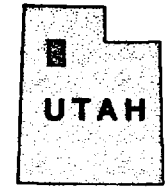
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PROPOSED PFS RAIL LINE

-  Intermodal Transfer Station
-  Public Land
-  National Forest
-  Military Reservation
-  Wilderness Area
-  Native American Land
-  Private Land
-  State Land



SCALE 1:260,000

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
SALT LAKE FIELD OFFICE

MAY 10, 1999



Original data were compiled from various sources and scales. This information may not meet National Map Accuracy Standards.

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