WM Record File 104 WM Project 10
Docket No.
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CONVERSATION RECORD

TIME 1:45 pm. DATE Wednesday, Oct. 8, 1986

Distribution:

TYPE ☐ VISIT ☐ CONFERENCE ☑ TELEPHONE ☐ INCOMING ☑ OUTGOING

Location of Visit/Conference (Return to WM, 623-SS)

ROUTING NAME/SYMBOL	INT

NAME OF PERSON(S) CONTACTED OR IN CONTACT WITH YOU	ORGANIZATION (Office, dept., bureau, etc.)	TELEPHONE NO:
Wyatt Rogers, Nuclear Waste Project Manager	Council of Energy Resource Tribes (CERT)	303/832-6600

SUBJECT
CERT ORGANIZATION AND HISTORY, AND FEDERAL TRUST RESPONSIBILITY

SUMMARY
I called Mr. Wyatt Rogers, CERT's Nuclear Waste Project Manager, to ask him about (1) CERT's history, organization, and purpose, and (2) about federal trust responsibility. Wyatt said that CERT is a non-profit corporation formed in 1975 when 25 Indian Tribes joined together to address the uses and development of tribal land energy resources such as coal, oil, natural gas and uranium. With a full-time staff of 40 in Denver, CERT has a present membership of 42 tribes, provides services to other non-member tribes on a contractual basis, and is the primary contractor for the Nez-Perce Tribe in Idaho. CERT is presently concerned with uranium development, regulatory schemes, and nuclear waste. As a result of President Reagan's 1983 Indian Policy Statement, CERT and the tribes are presently promoting the development of individual Indian policies by Federal agencies. CERT's Fall Conference will be held November 17-20, 1986 in Aurora, CO., and the CERT Annual Report is expected to be issued soon.

Wyatt said that the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is the lead agency in the area

ACTION REQUIRED
Contact Kathy Wilson (BIA) for information on Federal trust responsibility.

NAME OF PERSON DOCUMENTING CONVERSATION	SIGNATURE	DATE
ALMA HALE	Alma Hale	Oct. 9, 1986

ACTION TAKEN
Contacted Kathy Wilson (BIA) (See attached telecon.)
CERT to send Background, Organizational and Fall Conference Information

SIGNATURE	TITLE	DATE
Alma Hale	Project Manager, S/T Participation	Oct. 9, 1986

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of federal trust responsibility, which concerns the federal/tribal relationship. He said that the tribes have a sense of ambivalence towards BIA, which stems from the tribes' frustration with BIA's perceived lethargy and "paternalistic" attitude towards the tribes, yet at the same time being the tribes' lead advocate in the federal government. As a result of the heated and intense questioning the BIA representative received at the Portland S/T Quarterly Meeting Aug. 12, 1986, BIA Regional management has advocated, to BIA HQ, a more direct approach to the affected tribes in the area of nuclear waste issues. Wyatt also told me to talk with Kathy Wilson at BIA HQ here so that she could discuss in detail the federal trust responsibility. I also mentioned that Harold Heferre and Keith McDonnell gave a very favorable report about their geologic discussions with Curtis Conard, CERT's BWIP on-site representative. Wyatt emphasized Curtis' background in geology, and that he was monitoring oil and gas potential in trends near the site. Wyatt also conveyed the feeling that DOE is going to have a tough time proving that ground water travel time will be in line with the siting guidelines. Unfortunately, Curtis Conard is no longer the CERT BWIP on-site representative, and has returned to CERT HQ in Denver. A new site rep has been assigned to BWIP.

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