

November 22, 2005

The Honorable Orrin G. Hatch
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Hatch:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am responding to your letter of November 1, 2005, regarding NRC's obligation under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), as it relates to the proposed Private Fuel Storage license.

I specifically wish to advise you of the enclosed letter from the NRC to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), dated November 22, 2005. As stated in the letter, the NRC is formally terminating its participation in the consultation process, and has requested that the ACHP transmit comments on such termination in accordance with ACHP regulations. The letter addresses this issue in considerable detail.

I understand that this matter is of considerable importance to the people of Utah, and assure you that the NRC continues to take every step necessary to comply with the NHPA, while meeting its regulatory obligations in accordance with the provisions of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Nils J. Diaz

Enclosure: As stated