November 29, 2006

Mr. Eugene Little Coyote, President
Northern Cheyenne Reservation
Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council
P.O. Box 128
Lame Deer, MT 59043

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR COMMENTS CONCERNING THE WOLF CREEK GENERATING STATION LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION REVIEW

Dear President Little Coyote:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is seeking input for its environmental review of an application from Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation (WCNOC) for the renewal of the operating license for the Wolf Creek Generating Station (WCGS), located near Burlington in Coffey County, Kansas. WCGS is in close proximity to lands that may be of interest to the Northern Cheyenne Reservation. As described below, the NRC's process includes an opportunity for public and inter-governmental participation in the environmental review. We want to ensure that you are aware of our efforts and, pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 51.28(b) (10 CFR 51.28(b)), the NRC invites the Northern Cheyenne Reservation to provide input to the scoping process relating to the NRC's environmental review of the application. In addition, as outlined in 36 CFR 800.8(c), the NRC plans to coordinate compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, through the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

Under NRC regulations, the original operating license for a nuclear power plant is issued for up to 40 years. The license may be renewed for up to an additional 20 years if NRC requirements are met. The current operating license for WCGS will expire on March 11, 2025. WCNOC submitted its application for renewal of the WCNOC operating license in a letter dated September 27, 2006, as supplemented by letter dated November 17, 2006.

The NRC is gathering information for a WCGS site-specific supplement to its "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants" (GEIS), NUREG-1437. The GEIS is a programmatic environmental impact statement; it documents the NRC's staff's assessment of environmental impacts that would be associated with license renewal at any nuclear power plant site. The supplement to the GEIS will contain the results of the review of the environmental impacts on the area surrounding the WCGS site that are related to terrestrial ecology, aquatic ecology, hydrology, cultural resources, and socioeconomic issues (among others) and will contain a recommendation regarding the environmental acceptability of the license renewal action. Provided for your information is the WCGS Site Layout (Enclosure 1) and Transmission Line Map (Enclosure 2).

To accommodate interested members of the public, the NRC will hold two identical public scoping meetings for the WCGS license renewal supplement to the GEIS on December 19, 2006, at Coffey County Library-Burlington Branch, 410 Juniatta St., Burlington, Kansas. The first meeting will convene at 1:30 p.m. and will continue until 4:30 p.m., as necessary. The second meeting will convene at 7:00 p.m. and will continue until 10:00 p.m., as necessary. Additionally, the NRC staff will host informal discussions one hour before the start of each session. To be considered, comments must be provided either at the transcribed public meetings or in writing. No formal comments on the proposed scope of the supplement to the GEIS will be accepted during informal discussions.

The license renewal application (LRA) and the GEIS are publicly available at the NRC Public Document Room (PDR), located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852, or from the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). The ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room is accessible at http://adamswebsearch.nrc.gov/dologin.html. The accession number for the LRA is ML062770300. Persons who do not have access to ADAMS, or who encounter problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, should contact the NRC's PDR Reference staff by telephone at 1-800-397-4209, or 301-415-4737, or by e-mail at pdr@nrc.gov.

The WCGS LRA is also available on the Internet at www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal/applications/wolf-creek.html. In addition, the Coffey County Library-Burlington Branch, located at 410 Juniatta St., Burlington, Kansas, has agreed to make the LRA available for public inspection.

Please submit any comments that the Northern Cheyenne Reservation may have to offer on the scope of the environmental review by January 29, 2007. Written comments should be submitted by mail to the Chief, Rules and Directives Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Mail Stop T-6D59, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001. Electronic comments may be submitted to the NRC by e-mail at WolfCreekEIS@nrc.gov. At the conclusion of the scoping process, the NRC staff will prepare a summary of the significant issues identified and the conclusions reached, and mail a copy to you.

The staff expects to publish the draft supplement to the GEIS in August 2007. The NRC will hold another set of public meetings in the site vicinity to solicit comments on the draft. A copy of the draft supplemental environmental impact statement (SEIS) will be sent to you for your review and comment. After consideration of public comments received on the draft, the NRC will prepare a final SEIS. The issuance of a final SEIS for WCGS is planned for April 2008. If you need additional information regarding the environmental review process, please contact Mr. Christian Jacobs, Environmental Project Manager, at 301-415-3874 or by e-mail at cjj@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Rani L. Franovich, Branch Chief
Environmental Branch B
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-482

Enclosures:
1. Site Layout
2. Transmission Line Map

cc w/encls: See next page

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Sincerely,

/RA/

Rani L. Franovich, Branch Chief
Environmental Branch B
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-482

Enclosures:
1. Site Layout
2. Transmission Line Map

cc w/encls: See next page

DISTRIBUTION: See next page

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NAME	S. Figueroa	A. Williamson	C. Jacobs	R. Franovich
DATE	11/24/06	11/27/06	11/29/06	11/29/06

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Letter to E. Little Coyote from R. Franovich Dated November 29, 2006

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR COMMENTS CONCERNING THE WOLF CREEK GENERATING STATION LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION REVIEW

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Wolf Creek Generating Station

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