

February 5, 2008

Mr. Gabe Bohnee
Director
Environmental Restoration/
Waste Management Program
Nez Perce Tribe
P.O. Box 365
Lapwai, Idaho 83540

SUBJECT: INITIATION OF SECTION 106 CONSULTATION FOR THE PROPOSED LICENSE
RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR AREVA NP INC., RICHLAND, WASHINGTON

Dear Mr. Bohnee:

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has received a license application from AREVA NP Inc. (AREVA) to renew Special Nuclear Materials License SNM-1227 (proposed action). The facility is licensed by the NRC to manufacture fuel assemblies and intermediate fuel components for commercial nuclear reactors. The AREVA site is approximately 320 acres and located at 2101 Horn Rapids Road, within the Northern limits of the City of Richland, Washington (Enclosure 1). Within the site boundary, a 50 acre fenced exclusion area contains the processing and production buildings and an administrative office building. The remaining land area is used as a parking area, leased to local farmers for agricultural purposes, or remains undeveloped.

The NRC 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 Nez Perce Tribe to provide input to the scoping process relating to the NRC's environmental assessment 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.

To support the environmental assessment, the NRC is requesting any information you may have regarding Tribal historic sites or cultural resources within the AREVA site area. The NRC is interested in knowing if you have specific knowledge of any sites that you believe have traditional religious and cultural significance. After analyzing all the information collected, the NRC will follow up with your office regarding compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, Section 106 consultation process.

The AREVA license renewal application (LRA) is 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 Document Access and Management System (ADAMS). The ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room is accessible at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. The accession number for the LRA is ML063110089. Persons who do not have access to ADAMS or encounter problems, should contact the NRC's PDR reference staff by telephone at 1 (800)-397-4209, or (301)-415-3747, or by e-mail at pdr@nrc.gov.

Please submit any comments that the Nez Perce Tribe may have to offer on the environmental review by February 22, 2008. Written comments maybe submitted by mail to Chief, Rules and Directives Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Mail Stop T-6D59, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington D.C. 20555-0001. Electronic comments may be submitted to the NRC by e-mail at SECY@nrc.gov.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Jeannette Arce of my staff by telephone at (301)-(415)-4149 or by email at jxa7@nrc.gov. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Gregory F. Suber, Branch Chief
Environmental Review Branch
Environmental Protection and Performance
Assessment Directorate
Division of Waste Management
and Environmental Protection
Office of Federal and State Materials
and Environmental Management Program

Docket No.: 70-1257
License No: SNM- 1227

Enclosure:
AREVA NP, Inc. Facility Vicinity
Map

cc: V. Sonneck, NPT
M. Sobotta, NPT

Please submit any comments that the Nez Perce Tribe may have to offer on the environmental review by January 4, 2008. Written comments may be submitted by mail to Chief, Rules and Directives Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Mail Stop T-6D59, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001. Electronic comments may be submitted to the NRC by e-mail at SECY@nrc.gov.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Jeannette Arce of my staff by telephone at (301) 415-4149 or by email at jxa7@nrc.gov. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Gregory F. Suber, Branch Chief
Environmental Review Branch
Environmental Protection and Performance
Assessment Directorate
Division of Waste Management
and Environmental Protection
Office of Federal and State Materials
and Environmental Management Programs

Docket No. 70-1257
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OFC	EPPAD/ERB	EPPAD/ERB	EPPAD/ERB
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DATE	01/25/08	01/ 29/08	02/ 05/08

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