



March 3, 2009
REL:09:011

US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: RL Rodriguez, NMSS/FCSS
Executive Blvd. Bldg.
6003 Executive Boulevard
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Mr. Rodriguez:

**Subject: Cultural Resources Assessment for the AREVA NP Inc. Richland Fuel
Fabrication Facility; License No. SNM-1227**

Enclosed please find a copy of a cultural resources assessment of AREVA NP's Richland fuel fabrication facility conducted in AREVA's behalf by Historical Research Associates, Inc. (HRA) of Spokane, WA. The assessment is being provided as a voluntary action by AREVA in support of the NRC's finalization of its Environmental Assessment (EA) relative to the renewal of the Richland facility's special nuclear materials license (Lic. No. SNM-1227). The assessment specifically addresses compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1996, as amended, and implemented by 36 CFR Part 800, Protection of Historic Properties.

The field survey portion of the assessment was conducted over February 12-13. Prior to this, HRA had notified both the State of Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation and the pertinent Native American parties (Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Indian Nation and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation), inviting their input and participation in the assessment. A representative of the Yakama participated in the pre-field meeting and initial site walk-over on February 12.

As set forth in Section 6.0, Conclusions and Recommendations, of the report, the assessment did not identify archaeological resources that may be eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and further concluded that the site has a "low probability for prehistoric, ethnographic period, historic Indian, and Euroamerican resources that may be eligible for inclusion in the NRHP."

Under separate cover, AREVA has also conveyed this report to the State of Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation and the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Indian Nation and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. Via that correspondence AREVA has affirmed its commitment to act on the two recommendations of the study, namely that AREVA will initiate a historical evaluation of its buildings once the site reaches its 50 year anniversary and secondly, that AREVA will establish protocols on how to proceed if archaeological deposits and/or human remains are inadvertently discovered during construction in any portion of the Area of Potential Effects.

AREVA NP INC.

An AREVA and Siemens company

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If you have questions, please contact me on 509-375-8409.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Link". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "R".

R. E. Link, Manager
Environmental, Health, Safety, & Licensing

cc:

G. J. Kulesa, FSME/DWMEP
Mail Stop 8 F5