

July 29, 2009

Chairman Alonzo A. Cohy  
The Shoshone-Bannock Tribes  
P.O. Box 306  
Fort Hall, ID 83203

SUBJECT: INITIATION OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT SECTION 106  
PROCESS FOR AREVA EAGLE ROCK ENRICHMENT FACILITY

Dear Chairman Cohy:

On December 30, 2008, AREVA Enrichment Services (AES) submitted an environmental report (ER) to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The ER is one part of an application for a license to authorize construction, operation, and decommissioning of a proposed uranium enrichment facility. The NRC is in the initial stages of developing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed facility to be located near Idaho Falls, Idaho in Bonneville County. The facility, if licensed, would use a gas centrifuge enrichment technology to enrich the isotope uranium-235 in uranium hexafluoride up to 5 percent by weight. The EIS that NRC is preparing will document the environmental impacts associated with the construction, operation, and decommissioning of the proposed facility.

The proposed AES parcel is approximately 1,700 hectares (4,200 acres). In November 2008, AES commissioned an archeological survey of the facility's footprint which involves approximately 381 hectares (941 acres) of the total parcel. The report is attached along with a map showing the area of potential effect, as it appears in the AES ER. As a result of the surveys, AES recorded a number of isolated finds and concluded that one find (MW004) was potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. AES proposes minimizing any adverse impacts through a mitigation plan for this find.

In the ER, AES indicated their submission of the archeological surveys to your office. As required by 36 CFR 800.4(a), the NRC is requesting the views of the tribe on any further actions necessary to identify historic properties that may be affected by the construction, operation, and decommissioning of the proposed facility, including whether find MW004 should be included in the National Register of Historic Places.

We intend to use the EIS process to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as described in 36 CFR Part 800.8. After assessing information you provide, we will determine any additional actions that are necessary to comply with the Section 106 consultation process. If you have any questions or comments, or need any additional information, please contact Mathews George of my staff on 301-415-7065.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Andrea Kock, 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.: 70-7015

Enclosure: Volume Report

cc: Willie Preacher  
The Shoshone-Bannock Tribes

Stan Day  
AES Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility

George A. Harper, P.E.  
AES Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility

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Sincerely,

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Andrea Kock, Chief  
 Environmental Review Branch  
 Environmental Protection  
 and Performance Assessment Directorate  
 Division of Waste Management  
 and Environmental Protection  
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Docket No.: 70-7015

Enclosure: Volume Report

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<b>OFC</b>	DWMEP	DWMEP	DWMEP
<b>NAME</b>	MGeorge	AWalker-Smith	AKock
<b>DATE</b>	07/28/09	07/28/09	07/29/09

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