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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 19, 2010



It is the determination of the Turtle Mountain Tribal Historic Preservation Office that this project will have no effect on historic properties of importance to the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians. A determination of No Historic Properties Affected is granted for the project to proceed.

Twila Martin-Kekabah, Chairperson
Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa
P.O. Box 900
Belcourt, ND 58316


4-7-10

SUBJECT: INVITATION FOR FORMAL CONSULTATION UNDER NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT SECTION 106 AS WELL AS REQUEST FOR INFORMATION REGARDING TRIBAL HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCES POTENTIALLY AFFECTED BY THE POWERTECH INC. PROPOSED DEWEY-BURDOCK IN-SITU RECOVERY FACILITY NEAR EDMONT SOUTH DAKOTA

Dear Chairperson Martin-Kekabah:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has received an application from Powertech Inc. (Powertech) for a new radioactive source materials license to develop and operate the Dewey-Burdock Project located near Edgemont, South Dakota in Fall River and Custer Counties. The facility, if licensed, would use an *in-situ* recovery methodology to extract uranium at the Dewey-Burdock site. The proposed project area consists of approximately 10,580 acres (4,282 ha) located on both sides of Dewey Road (County Road 6463) and portions of Sections 1-5, 10-12, 14, and 15, Township 7 South, Range 1 East and Sections 20, 21, 27, 28, 29, and 30-35, Township 6 South, Range 1 East, Black Hill Meridian. A map showing the proposed project boundary is enclosed (Powertech Figure 1.4-1).

The South Dakota State Historic Preservation Officer identified the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa as potentially attaching religious and cultural significance to historic properties in the project area. By this letter, the NRC invites the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa to participate as a consulting party in the National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 process. If the Band would like to participate as a consulting party, please respond by writing to Mr. Kevin Hsueh.

As established in Title 10 Code of Federal Regulations Part 51 (10 CFR 51), the NRC regulation that implements the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, the NRC is preparing a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for the proposed action. As part of the environmental review, the SEIS will include an analysis of potential impacts to historic and cultural properties and is therefore requesting input from the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa to facilitate the identification of tribal historic sites or cultural resources that may be affected by the proposed action. Specifically, the NRC is interested in learning of any areas on the Dewey-Burdock site that you believe have traditional religious or cultural significance. After a careful review and assessment of all the comments received, the NRC will determine what additional actions are necessary to comply with 10 CFR 51 and 36 CFR 800, the implementing regulation for Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

**TURTLE MOUNTAIN
OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS**

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