

October 6, 2011

Ms. Victoria Winfrey
Tribal Council President
Prairie Island Indian Community
Sturgeon 5636 Lake Road
Welch, MN 55089

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT STANDARD PROTOCOL FOR STATE AND TRIBAL OUTREACH ON UNINTENDED RELEASES OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL

The purpose of this letter is to provide the enclosed Draft Standard Protocol for State and Tribal Outreach on Unintended Releases of Radioactive Material for review and comment by October 31, 2011.

The development of a standard protocol for engaging States and Tribes on unintended releases of radioactive material from U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) regulated facilities is an outgrowth of a recommendation in the June 2010 NRC staff Groundwater Task Force Report (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession Number ML101680435). The standard protocol development was also noted in the staff's February 9, 2011 memorandum to the Commission on initiatives for improved communication of groundwater incidents (ADAMS Accession Number ML110050252).

The standard protocol serves as guidance to NRC staff and does not involve a change in Commission policy. The protocol supplements NRC staff's long standing communications practice and policy (57 FR 6462, February 25, 1992), as outlined in Management Directive 5.2, "Cooperation with States at Commercial Nuclear Power Plants and Other Production or Utilization Facilities," dated October 29, 2010, and FSME Procedure SL-100, "Regional State Liaison Officers (RSLOs)," dated July 14, 2010. These documents can be viewed at <http://pbadupws.nrc.gov/docs/ML1022/ML102220529.pdf> and <http://nrc-stp.ornl.gov/procedures/sl100.pdf>, respectively.

The NRC staff believes that through our long standing relationship, States and Tribes can help facilitate the timely dissemination of information involving unintended releases of radioactive material to not only Governors and other State, Tribal and local agencies, but also to the public health community. These State and Tribal contacts and organizations can help to further disseminate such information in a consistent and timely manner to the general public.

V. Winfrey

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If you have any questions about this correspondence, please contact me at (301) 415-7278, or the individual named below.

POINT OF CONTACT: Rosetta Virgilio INTERNET: Rosetta.Virgilio@nrc.gov
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/RA DJackson for/

Josephine M. Piccone, Director
Division of Intergovernmental Liaison
and Rulemaking
Office of Federal and State Materials
and Environmental Management Programs

Enclosure:
As stated

October 6, 2011

Mr. Robert Holden
Deputy Director
National Congress of American Indians
1516 P. Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

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Identical letter and enclosure sent to:
Tribal Council President Victoria Winfrey

Distribution:

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DATE	10/6/11	10/6/11	10/6/11

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