

January 26, 2012

Chief Donald Rodgers
Catawba Indian Tribe
996 Avenue of the Nations
Rock Hill, SC 29730-7645

SUBJECT: JANUARY 31, 2012 WEBINAR AND DRAFT REPORT FOR COMMENT:
BACKGROUND AND PRELIMINARY ASSUMPTIONS FOR AN
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT – LONG -TERM WASTE
CONFIDENCE UPDATE

Dear Chief Rogers:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is seeking comment by February 17, 2012, on the enclosed Draft Report entitled, "Background and Preliminary Assumptions for an Environmental Impact Statement – Long-Term Waste Confidence Update." The report updates preliminary assumptions for an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) NRC will develop to analyze the effects of storing spent nuclear fuel from the nation's commercial nuclear power reactors for as much as 200 years. The report was posted January 3, 2012, on the NRC [website](#). The report updates assumptions first laid out in [SECY-11-0029](#), dated February 28, 2011.

Additionally, the NRC staff will hold a **webinar on January 31, 2012**, to discuss the NRC's Draft Report. The meeting notice for this webinar is also enclosed. The NRC is co-hosting the webinar with The Council of State Governments' Midwestern Office. The webinar is open to the public and will begin promptly at 2:00 pm **Eastern** Standard Time. With time allotted for presentations and questions, the webinar will conclude by 3:30 pm.

The EIS will be part of NRC's effort to update its Waste Confidence Decision and Rule, last updated in 2010. The report being made available for comment is an early effort to obtain public input about the general scope of the EIS before the NRC formally initiates the EIS scoping process. The EIS will include analyses of environmental impacts that are directly related to the long-term handling, storage and transportation of commercial spent fuel and high-level waste.

The report discusses several storage scenarios, including at nuclear power plants, regional or centralized storage sites, or a combination of storage and reprocessing of spent fuel. A key assumption is that extended storage would be managed under a regulatory program similar to current regulation of spent fuel. To analyze the impacts associated with the scenarios, the staff will develop generic, composite sites for each scenario, and these sites will account for a range of characteristics of actual reactor and storage sites.

As revised in 2010, the Waste Confidence Decision and Rule included the Commission's confidence that spent fuel can be safely managed until it undergoes final disposition. At the same time, the Commission directed the staff to prepare a long-term update to the Waste Confidence Decision and Rule that would cover extended storage of spent fuel. This long-term

update is to be informed by the analysis and conclusions of the EIS anticipated in the current report.

To register for the free webinar, go to the registration page **by January 30, 2012**, and fill out the online form at <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/844201962>; select "Show in my Time Zone" when registering. The registration confirmation will arrive by e-mail and will include instructions for accessing the audio and video components of the webinar. Contact Lisa Janairo at ljanairo@csg.org with any questions about accessing the webinar.

Comments on the report can be provided by email to WCO Outreach@nrc.gov, or by U.S. mail to:

Christine Pineda, Project Manager
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
Mailstop EBB-2B2
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Any questions with respect to this correspondence should be directed to:

POINT OF CONTACT: Christine Pineda
TELEPHONE: 301-492-3154

INTERNET: Christine.Pineda@nrc.gov
FAX: 301-492-3357

/RA/

Keith I. McConnell, Acting Director
Division of Intergovernmental Liaison
and Rulemaking
Office of Federal and State Materials
and Environmental Management Programs

Enclosures:

1. Draft Report for Comment
2. Webinar Public Meeting Notice

update is to be informed by the analysis and conclusions of the EIS anticipated in the current report.

To register for the free webinar, go to the registration page **by January 30, 2012**, and fill out the online form at <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/844201962>; select "Show in my Time Zone" when registering. The registration confirmation will arrive by e-mail and will include instructions for accessing the audio and video components of the webinar. Contact Lisa Janairo at ljanairo@csg.org with any questions about accessing the webinar.

Comments on the report can be provided by email to WCO Outreach@nrc.gov, or by U.S. mail to:

Christine Pineda, Project Manager
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
Mailstop EBB-2B2
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Any questions with respect to this correspondence should be directed to:

POINT OF CONTACT: Christine Pineda
TELEPHONE: 301-492-3154

INTERNET: Christine.Pineda@nrc.gov
FAX: 301-492-3357

Keith I. McConnell, Acting Director
Division of Intergovernmental Liaison
and Rulemaking
Office of Federal and State Materials
and Environmental Management Programs

Enclosures:

1. Draft Report for Comment
2. Webinar Public Meeting Notice

DISTRIBUTION:

DILR r/f
FSME r/f
D. Tiff, RI
J. Pelchat, RII
G. Wooddruff, RII
A. Baker, RIII
C. Pineda, NMSS

S. Eason, FSME
P. McGrady-Finneran, FSME
M. Ryan, FSME
R. Turtill, FSME
RidsFSMEOd
B. Maier, RIV

IDENTICAL LETTERS SENT TO THE ATTACHED DISTRIBUTION LIST

ML120170354

OFC	FSME:DILR:ILB	FSME.DILR:ILB	FSME/DILR:DD	FSME:DILR/AD
NAME	RVirgilio	RTurtill	DJackson	KMcConnell
DATE	1/25/12	1/25/12	1/26/12	1/26/12

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Chief Donald Rodgers
Catawba Indian Tribe
996 Avenue of the Nations
Rock Hill, SC 29730-7645

Chairman Adrian Pusetoneque
Sac and Fox Nation
349 Meskwaki Road
Tama, IA 52339-9629

Chairperson Arlan Whitebird
Kickapoo Tribe
1107 Goldfinch Road
Horton, KS 66439

Chairman John Blackhawk
Winnebago Tribe
P.O. Box 687
Winnebago, NE 68071

Chairperson Amen Sheridan
Omaha Tribe
P.O. Box 368
Macy, NE 68039

Chairperson Rick Hill
Oneida Nation
P.O. Box 365
Oneida, WI 54155-0365

Chairman Lynn Malerba
Mohegan Tribe
5 Crow Hill Road
Uncasville, CT 06382

Chairman Rodney A. Butler
Mashantucket Pequot Tribe
P.O. Box 3060
Mashantucket, CT 06338

Chief Sachem Matthew Thoma
Narragansett Indian Tribe
P.O. Box 268
Charlestown, RI 02813

Chairperson Randy King
Shinnecock Indian Nation
P.O. Box 5006
Southampton, NY 11969

Chairman Stanley R. Crooks
Shakopee Mdewakton Sioux Community
2330 Sioux Trail NW
Prior Lake, MN 55372-9077

Chief Executive Marge Anderson
Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe
43408 Oodena Drive
Onamia, MN 56359

Chief Irving Powless Jr.
Onondaga Nation
Rural Route 1# 319-B
Nedrow, NY 13120

Principal Chief Michall Hicks
Eastern Cherokee Nation
P.O. Box 455
Cherokee, NC 28719

Chairman Ned Norris
Tohono O'odham Nation
P.O. Box 837
Sells, AZ 85634

Governor William Rhodes
Gila River Indian Community
P.O. Box 97
Sacaton, AZ 85247

Chairperson Delia M. Caryle
Maricopa Indian Community
42507 W.Peters & Nall Road
Maricopa, AZ 85239

Chairwoman Cheryl Andrews-Maltais
Wampanoag Tribe
20 Black Brook Road
Aquinnah, MA 02535

Spokesman Allen E. Lawson Jr.
San Pasqual Tribe
P.O. Box 305
Valley Center, CA 92802-0365

President Johnny Johnson
Prairie Island Indian Community
5636 Sturgeon Lane Road
Welch, MN 55089

Chairwoman Tracy Lee Nelson
La Jolla Tribe
2000 Highway 76
Pauma Valley, CA 92061

Chairman Earl J. Barbry Sr.
Tunica-Biloxi Tribe
P.O. Box 1589
Marksville, LA 71351

Chairman Anthony Madrigal Jr.
Cahuilla Tribe
P.O. Box 39170
Anza, CA 92539-1760

Chairman Craig D. Tepper
Fort Pierce Seminole Tribe
6300 Stirling Road
Hollywood, FL 33024

Spokesperson Robert Salgado, Jr.
Soboba Tribe
P.O. Box 487
San Jacinto, CA 92581

Chairman Mark Marcaro
Pechanga Tribe
P.O. Box 1477
Temecola, CA 92593

Spokesman Virgil Perez
Santa Ysabel-Mesa Grande Tribe
P.O. Box 130
Santa Ysabel, CA 92070

Chairman Robert Smith
Pala Tribe
35008 Pala Temecula Road. PMB 50
Pala, CA 92059

Chairman Mark Romero
Mesa Grande Tribe
P.O. Box 270
Santa Ysable, CA 92070

Chairman Christobel C .Devers
Pauma & Yuima Tribe
P.O. Box 369
Pauma Valley, CA 92601

Spokeswoman Edwin Thorpe
Barona Tribe
1095 Barona Road
Lakeside, CA 92040

Chairman Vernon Wright
Rincon Tibe
P.O. Box 68
Valley Center, CA 92601

Chairman Colley Billie
Tamiami Station Miccosukee Tribe
P.O. Box 440021
Miami, FL 33144

Chairperson Jason Warren
Owens Valley Paiute Shoshone Indians of
the Big Pine Reservation
P.O Box 700
Big Pine, CA 93513

Chairperson Allen Spoonhunter
Bishop Paiute Indian Tribe
700 Tusu Lane
Bishop, CA 93514

Chairperson David Chavez
Chemehuevi Indian Tribe
P.O Box 1976
Havasu Lake, CA 92363

Chairperson Betty Cornelius
Colorado River Indian Tribe
Route 1 Box 23-B
Parker, AZ 85344

Chairperson Virginia Sanchez
Duckwater Shoshone Tribe
P.O. Box 140068
Duckwater, NV 89314

Chairperson Alvin Marques
Ely Shoshone Tribe
16 Shoshone Circle
Circle Ely, NV 89301

Chairperson Carl Dahlberg
Indians of the Fort Independence
Reservation
P.O. Box 67
Independence, CA 93526

Indian Country Today
579 Main Street
Oneida, NY 13421-2452

D. Crawford
Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada
680 Greenbrae Dr. Suite 280
Sparks, NV 89431

Chairperson Manuel Savala
Kaibab-Paiute Tribe
HC 65 Box 2
Fredonia, AZ 86022

Armand Minthorn
Umatilla Indian Reservation
P.O. Box 638
Pendleton, OR 97801

Chairman McCoy Oatman
Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee
P.O. Box 305
Lapwa, ID 83540-0305

Richard Arnold
Las Vegas Indian Center
2300 W. Bonanza Road
Las Vegas, NV 89106

Chairperson Kenny Anderson
Las Vegas Paiute Tribe
11515 NV Way Kaiv Blvd
Las Vegas, NV 89124

Chairperson Wilfred
Nabahe Lone Pine Shoshone Indian Tribe
P.O. Box 747
Lone Pine, CA 93545

Chairman Philbert Swain
Moapa Indian Tribe
P.O Box 340
Moapa, NV 89025

Chairperson Jeanine Borchardt
Paiute Indian Tribes of Utah
600 N. 100 E. Paiute Drive
Cedar City, UT 84720

Chairperson Barbara Durham
Timbi-Sha Band of Shoshone Indians
P.O Box 206
Death Valley, CA 92428

Chairperson Billie Saulque
Star Utu Utu Gwaitu Paiute Tribe
Route 4 Box 56-A
Benton, CA 93512

John Wells
Western Shoshone Nation Council
HC61 Box 6275
Austin, NV 89310

Chairperson Wayne Dyer
Yomba Shoshone Tribe
HC61 Box 6275
Austin, NV 89310

Chairman Amos Murphy
Goshutes Business Council
P.O Box 6104
Ibapah, UT 84034

Chairman Harry Smiskin
Confederated Tribes and Bands of Yakima
Nation
P.O. Box 151
Toppenish, WA 98948

Robert Holden, Deputy Director
National Congress of American Indians
1516 P Street NW
Washington, DC 20005