



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

February 28, 2012

Dear Tribal Historic Preservation Officers:

Thank you for meeting with the NRC staff on February 13-14, 2012 in Rapid City, South Dakota to discuss the identification of historic properties of religious and cultural significance that may be affected by the proposed Crow Butte License Renewal, Crow Butte North Trend, and Dewey-Burdock projects.

At the close of the February meeting, attending Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPOs) requested that an additional Section 106 meeting be held on March 14 and 15, 2012. The attending THPOs indicated that, by the end of the March meeting, they would provide the NRC staff with proposed statements of work (SOWs) for investigations of historic properties of religious and cultural significance of each of the three proposed project properties. Based on information discussed at the February meeting, the applicants and their consultant are also developing draft SOWs for each of the three projects. As soon as the NRC staff receives the draft SOWs from the applicants, we will send them to you for your consideration.

The purpose of the March meeting would then be to discuss the specifics of the proposed SOWs developed by the Tribes and the applicants and to reach consensus, as much as reasonably possible, on the particularities and logistics of the investigation methods.

The NRC staff hopes that, by the close of the meeting on March 15, 2012, the meeting attendees will have reached consensus on a SOW for each of the proposed projects (Crow Butte License Renewal, Crow Butte North Trend, and Dewey-Burdock). After the close of the meeting, the NRC staff would then circulate finalized SOWs to all interested Tribes for comment, as some may not be able to attend the March 14 and 15, 2012 meeting.

In order to provide the NRC staff time to prepare for the upcoming meeting, NRC staff asks that the Tribes forward the proposed SOWs to the NRC by March 7, 2012. The NRC staff requests that the proposed SOWs include cost estimates for all phases of the investigation, including report preparations. Proposed SOWs can be transmitted to Haimanot Yilma via email at [Haimanot.yilma@nrc.gov](mailto:Haimanot.yilma@nrc.gov) or Nathan Goodman via email at [Nathan.goodman@nrc.gov](mailto:Nathan.goodman@nrc.gov).

At the February meeting, attending THPOs also requested that the NRC provide a prioritization of the three involved projects. The NRC staff generally seeks to complete its application reviews in the order in which the applications were submitted. In this case, the applications were submitted in the following order:

1. Crow Butte License Renewal.
2. Crow Butte North Trend.
3. Dewey-Burdock.

The NRC staff would therefore seek to complete its National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) review for Crow Butte License Renewal first, followed by Crow Butte North Trend and Dewey-Burdock. However, the NRC staff will work with the Tribes and the applicants to ensure that work on each of the three projects is accomplished as expeditiously as possible.

Because the costs of the cultural investigations for each proposed project will be borne by the respective project applicants, and because all of the proposed Crow Butte License Renewal and Crow Butte North Trend project areas and most of the proposed Dewey-Burdock project area are located on private lands (potentially requiring applicant escort for access), the NRC staff suggests that the applicants (and the SRI Foundation consultants employed by the applicants) participate in parts of the upcoming March meeting concerning logistics and methodology.

Because there is the potential that the upcoming meeting will include discussions of sensitive cultural information, it is the NRC staff's plan that the March meeting will be closed to members of the public. Please note that unless a person is an official representative of a party involved in consultations under NHPA (e.g., Tribal governments, State governments, the Federal government, or an applicant), the person is considered a member of the public. If members of the public are in attendance at the March 2012 meeting, this will limit the NRC staff's ability to maintain the confidentiality of any sensitive information discussed at the meeting. On the other hand, if attending THPOs would prefer that the meeting be open to the public, please contact Haimanot Yilma or Nathan Goodman by March 5, 2012 so that the NRC can make necessary alternative arrangements.

The NRC staff has arranged to meet again at the Best Western Ramkota Hotel in Rapid City, South Dakota. A block of rooms under the code "NRC Group" has been reserved. Each THPO is responsible for making his or her hotel reservation; use the code "NRC Group" in order to receive the government rate..

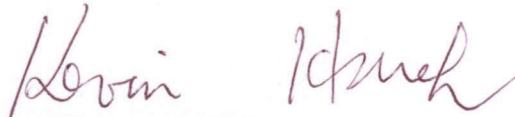
The applicants have provided the following information regarding reimbursement for travel expenses incurred by Tribal participants:

*The applicants agree to provide similar reimbursement terms as was offered for the February 14-15 meeting with the difference being the number of the tribal participants eligible for the reimbursement. The reimbursement will cover one THPO, or designated (in writing) representative, and Ben Rhodd and Tim Mentz and other designated representatives directly participating in the drafting of the SOWs (excluding clerical assistants). Lunch, beverages and snacks will also be provided as before".*

If you are interested in being reimbursed for your travel cost, please contact John Schmuck, Senior Permitting Manger for Cameco Resources, at 307-316-7587.

If you have any questions or concerns, please let us know by March 5, 2012.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Kevin Hsueh". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'K' and 'H'.

Kevin Hsueh, Chief  
Environmental Review Branch  
Division of Waste Management  
and Environmental Protection  
Office of Federal and State Materials  
and Environmental Management Programs