



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

October 31, 2012

Dear Tribal Historic Preservation Officer:

SUBJECT: CONTINUATION OF SECTION 106 CONSULTATION FOR THE PROPOSED CROW BUTTE *IN-SITU* URANIUM RECOVERY (ISR) LICENSE RENEWAL, NORTH TREND, MARSLAND, AND THREE CROW PROJECTS

As part of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) efforts to identify historic properties of religious and cultural significance to Native American Tribes that could be affected by the proposed Cameco Resources, Inc. (Cameco) Crow Butte operating ISR facility license renewal, North Trend ISR Expansion Area, Marsland ISR, and Three Crow ISR projects, the NRC staff is asking your Tribe to participate in a field study to identify historic properties of religious and cultural significance at these sites.

The NRC acknowledges that the Native American Tribes possess special expertise in site identification of properties of cultural and religious significance and assessing the significance of these properties to their individual Tribes. The NRC also acknowledges that the Tribes have expressed concerns about the potential impacts from the proposed Cameco projects to these properties. The NRC staff believes that a field study is a reasonable means of identifying properties of cultural and religious significance at these sites.

The applicant, Cameco, controls access to the sites, and compensation for travel and other expenses associated with a field study will have to be provided by Cameco. The NRC staff has discussed site access and compensation with the applicant, and the applicant has proposed the following arrangements.

Each participating Tribe will select up to three individuals who will conduct the field study on all four sites. Cameco has agreed to open all four project sites anytime during daylight hours from Wednesday, November 14 through Wednesday, November 21, 2012, as well as Monday, November 26 through Friday, December 7, 2012, for Tribes to conduct these field studies. If your Tribe cannot accommodate that timeframe, you are welcome to suggest alternative field study dates in either November or December of 2012. After completing the field study, each Tribe will provide a written report directly to the NRC no later than January 7, 2013, or, if an alternative timeframe is requested and agreed upon, no later than 30 days after the end of the approved timeframe. The contents of the report are described below.

With regard to compensation for travel and other expenses related to the field studies, Cameco will provide \$125 per day per diem for up to three individuals from each Tribe, 55 cents per mile for one vehicle to travel from the Tribal headquarters to Chadron, Nebraska, and back, as well as mileage for daily round-trips from Chadron to the project areas. Cameco will also provide an honorarium of \$10,000 to each Tribe that chooses to participate, to be distributed at the Tribe's discretion to individuals participating in the fieldwork. The Tribes will work directly with Cameco to receive the compensation described above.

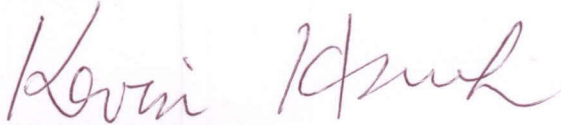
The Tribes will present their findings from the field study in a written report to be submitted directly to the NRC. These reports should include the following: (1) a discussion of the fieldwork completed; (2) a description of each individual site recorded; (3) a National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) evaluation of any potentially eligible historic property that is found; (4) a significance statement for any of the recorded potential historic properties that the Tribal Historic Preservation Officers recommend as being potentially eligible for the NRHP; and (5) recommendations for any known mitigation measures of possible adverse effects for each potential historic property designated as potentially NRHP-eligible.

Because the Section 106 process for the Marsland and Three Crow projects has just begun, the NRC recognizes that site identification for those two projects may require field time beyond the November-December 2012 timeframe. Therefore, additional site time can be arranged during the winter/spring 2013 season (January – May timeframe) to complete field studies for the Marsland and Three Crow sites. The same compensation arrangements for per diem and mileage would apply to this additional work. The results of any additional survey work performed in the spring would be provided to the NRC in a separate report within 30 days of completing the additional field work.

In order for the NRC and Cameco to make the necessary arrangements for the Tribes to conduct these studies, the NRC must receive your response to this letter on or before November 14, 2012. If your Tribe wishes to participate, but cannot make the timeframe offered by Cameco, the NRC must receive your request for alternative field dates in the response to this letter (on or before November 14, 2012). If you do not respond by November 14, 2012, the NRC will deem that to mean you have decided not to participate in this effort. If you respond before November 14, 2012, and would like the site open for a field study prior to November 14, 2012, Cameco is willing to open the site as early as November 5, 2012. If you decide to participate in the field studies, NRC will forward your response to Cameco to make the necessary arrangements.

Should you wish to respond, or if you have any questions for NRC staff, please contact either Nathan Goodman, NRC Project Manager, at 301-415-2703, or Nathan.Goodman@nrc.gov, or Jean Trefethen, NRC Project Manager, at 301-415-5137 or Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Kevin Hsueh". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kevin" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Hsueh".

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

Docket No. 40-8943