

February 19, 2014

Michael Blackwolf
Fort Belknap Tribe
656 Agency Main Street
Harlem, MT 59526-9455

SUBJECT: TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION FOR CONSULTING PARTIES UNDER SECTION 106 FOR THE PROPOSED RENO CREEK IN-SITU URANIUM RECOVERY PROJECT IN CAMPBELL COUNTY, WYOMING

Dear Mr. Blackwolf:

On October 5, 2012, AUC LLC, (AUC) submitted an application to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for a source materials license to authorize AUC to construct and operate an in-situ uranium recovery (ISR) facility at the proposed Reno Creek project site located in Campbell County, Wyoming. By letter dated March 27, 2013, the NRC initiated a National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106 consultation concerning AUC's proposed Reno Creek ISR Project. You indicated that your tribe would like to participate as a consulting party under Section 106 of the NHPA. Accordingly, the NRC is transmitting information that may be useful to you as a consulting party.

In response to your interest, the NRC staff is enclosing (Enclosure 1) the Historic and Cultural Resources Report, prepared by Greer Services and submitted by AUC as part of the license application for the Reno Creek Project.

The NRC staff has developed and delineated the area of potential effect (APE) as defined in 36 CFR 800.15(d). The APEs are geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause alterations in the character or use of historic properties. The NRC staff has initially defined the APE for both direct and indirect effects.

The direct APE is proposed as the area in which potential ground disturbing activities may occur, and would comprise an area of 1,609 acres. Enclosure 2 is a map that shows the direct APE. These 1,609 acres defined as the direct APE includes: a direct disturbance area (154 acres), a fenced and controlled area (327 acres), a virtually undisturbed buffer zone (1,119 acres), and a pipeline and new road space (8.7 acres). The buffer zone is defined as the land area between the controlled area's perimeter fence and an outer ring of monitoring wells located approximately 400-500 feet outside the fence. The pipeline and road space account for pipelines and new roads and/or power lines that may be constructed between the central processing plant and wellfields and is not included in the controlled area.

In addition to the direct APE, the NRC staff proposes defining the indirect APE, in which visual, audible and/or atmospheric effects may occur, by the following method. Initially, the NRC staff will conservatively identify any historic properties within a three to five mile radius of the direct APE by searching the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office's database and any other sources that may provide similar information. The NRC will perform further evaluations of historic properties meeting the National Register evaluation criteria in 36 CFR 60.4(a), (b) or (c)

The visual horizon in the direction of the historic property will be delineated to identify the extent of the indirect APE and determine if any of the NHPA criteria are met. At that point, the staff will finalize its initial determination of the indirect APE based on the data search and the evaluation of the visual horizon.

Both enclosures to this letter, Historic and Cultural Resources Report, prepared by Greer Services and submitted by AUC as part of the license application (Enclosure 1) and the map of the direct APE (Enclosure 2) contain sensitive information that is non-public in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and should be protected from public disclosure. The NRC staff invites you to submit comments or questions pertaining to the Historic and Cultural Resources Report, the delineation of the direct APE, or the methodology to develop an indirect APE within 30 days of receipt of this letter.

For additional information regarding the proposed action, AUC's license application is publicly available from the NRC's Agency Wide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). You may access publicly available documents online in the NRC library at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. The accession number the Reno Creek application is ML122890785.

Please contact Ms. Jill Caverly of my staff if you have any questions or comments on the proposed project or the Historic and Cultural Resources Report. Ms. Caverly can be reached by telephone at 301-415-6699, or by email at Jill.Caverly@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

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

Docket No.: 40-9092

Enclosures:

1. Historic and Cultural Resources Report
2. Direct Area of Potential Effects

cc: James Viellanave, AUC LLC

historic properties meeting the National Register evaluation criteria in 36 CFR 60.4(a), (b) or (c) The visual horizon in the direction of the historic property will be delineated to identify the extent of the indirect APE and determine if any of the NHPA criteria are met. At that point, the staff will finalize its initial determination of the indirect APE based on the data search and the evaluation of the visual horizon.

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/RA/
 Kevin Hsueh, Chief
 Environmental Review Branch
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 and Performance Assessment Directorate
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cc: James Viellanave, AUC LLC

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OFFICE	DWMEP	DWMEP	DWMEP	OGC	DWMEP
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DATE	01/27/14	01/27/14	01/27/14	02/12/14	02/19/14

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