

May 12, 2015

Dr. Wenonah G. Haire
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Catawba Indian Nation
Catawba Cultural Preservation Project
1536 Tom Steven Road
Rock Hill, SC 29730

SUBJECT: REQUEST CONCURRENCE UNDER THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT, SECTION 106 CONSULTATION ON THE U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION'S DETERMINATION OF EFFECTS FOR THE PROPOSED 40-YEAR LICENSE RENEWAL OF WESTINGHOUSE'S COLUMBIA FUEL FABRICATION FACILITY

Dear Dr. Haire:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is considering a request, submitted by Westinghouse Electric Company, LLC (Westinghouse), to renew its NRC special nuclear materials license (SNM-1107) for a 40-year term. The NRC license authorizes Westinghouse to operate its Columbia Fuel Fabrication Facility (CFFF) in Richland County, near Columbia, South Carolina. Both the original renewal application (dated July 31, 2014) and its supplement (dated December 17, 2014) are available through the NRC's web-based Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), which can be found at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. The application and its supplement carry accession numbers ML14213A105 and ML14352A111, respectively.

Westinghouse states in its license renewal request that no new manufacturing facilities at the CFFF would be constructed under this proposed action. However, Westinghouse proposes to expand an existing UF₆ storage pad at the CFFF. Because the proposed storage pad expansion would occur on land that has already been developed, such expansion would not be expected to have any adverse effect on historical resources. Accordingly, the NRC has determined that the proposed action would not adversely affect any historical and cultural resources at the CFFF.

Under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), the NRC staff is requesting that you provide, within 30 days of this letter's date, concurrence regarding the NRC's NHPA determination above.

As background the NRC staff provides you with the following information:

The CFFF is located within a parcel of land of approximately 469-hectares (1,158-acres). The various buildings and structures that make up the CFFF occupy about 24 hectares (60 acres). Details regarding the referenced Westinghouse plans to expand its UF₆ storage pad are provided in the Westinghouse Environmental Report (ER) Figure 2.1-1, "CFFF and Surrounding

Area,” Figure 2.1-2, “Area Surrounding the CFFF Site within 5 miles,” and Figure 2.1-3, “Topographical Detail of the CFFF Site and Surroundings.” The ER is part of the December 2014 Westinghouse supplement to its renewal application, and is available through ADAMS under accession number ML14352A111.

As part of a past licensing action on the SNM-1107 license, the NRC published, on April 19, 2007, an Environmental Assessment (EA), that is available in ADAMS under accession number ML070510647. This EA evaluated the potential environmental impacts of a previous CFFF 20-year license renewal. Similar to the present proposed action, Westinghouse in its earlier license renewal request did not propose action in undeveloped portions of the CFFF. Documentation of the NRC’s previous NHPA consultation with Catawba Indian Nation is in Section 5.4, “Catawba Indian Nation” of the 2007 EA. The Catawba Indian Nation letters dated December 1, 2006, and February 27, 2007, are available in ADAMS under accession numbers ML063490127 and ML070710156. In the letter dated February 27, 2007, you responded “Our primary concern is ground disturbance in areas without previous archaeological testing. Unless new ground disturbance ever occurs, the Catawba have no immediate concerns with regard to traditional cultural properties, sacred sites, or Native American archaeological sites within the boundaries of the facility.”

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC’s “Agency Rules of Practice and Procedure,” a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of NRC’s Agencywide Documents Accession and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Mr. Asimios Malliakos of my staff by telephone at (301) 415-0605 or via email at Asimios.Malliakos@nrc.gov. Written response can be provided to: Ms. Lydia Chang, c/o Document Control Desk, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Mailstop T-4B16, Washington DC, 20555-0001.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Lydia Chang, Chief
Environmental Review Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety, Safeguards
and Environmental Review
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No.: 70-1151
License No.: SNM-1107

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Lydia Chang, Chief
Environmental Review Branch
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Office of Nuclear Material Safety
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Docket No.: 70-1151
License No.: SNM-1107

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DATE	04/14/2015	04/15/2015	04/16/2015	05/07/2015	05/12/2015

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