

Defenders of the Black Hills

He Sapa O'nakijin

PO Box 2003, Rapid City, SD 57709

Jan. 14, 2016

Kenneth Kalman
Office of Nuclear Material Safety & Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Kenneth.Kalman@nrc.gov

Re: Docket No. 40-38367, NRC-2015-0255

Dear Sir:

In compliance with Federal Register / Vol. 80, No. 220 / Monday, November 16, 2015 Notices, please accept this as our Request for a Hearing.

The requester is Defenders of the Black Hills, PO Box 2003, Rapid City, SD 57709 with telephone number 605 - 342 - 1626. Our request is based on the fact that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is a federal agency bound to uphold the federal laws and Constitution of the United States, and we have a right to request a hearing under the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, the National Environmental Policy Act, the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, and the American Indian Religious Freedom Act.

Our contention is that our right to religious freedom will be denied with the approval of Rare Element Resources, Inc., Bear Lodge Project as the project will destroy a sacred mountain (hill) in the process of mining.

Bull Hill, the land area to be mined, has been held as sacred by the Sioux (Oceti Sakowin) People and others for millenia. Because of exploitation of our sacred areas, such as Bear Lodge (AKA Devil's Tower) there are many sacred places that we have not described or have not had written about in any books. We are only a little over one-hundred years away from first contact with white Americans. The knowledge of these areas is handed down orally from generation to generation. However, we must come forward now to protect this sacred place.

We respectfully request a hearing so our elders and other tribal members and spiritual leaders may testify to the above statement.

Sincerely,



Charmaine White Face, Coordinator

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of)
)
RARE ELEMENT RESOURCES, INC.) Docket No. 40-38367-ML
)
(Bear Lodge Project))

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to 10 C.F.R § 2.305, I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing "Request for Hearing" in the above-captioned proceeding have been served upon the following persons by electronic mail and/or first class US Postal Service.

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Commission Appellate
Adjudication
Mail Stop 0-7H4M
Washington, DC 20555-0001
ocaamail@nrc.gov

Catherine Scott, Esq.
Christopher Hair, Esq.
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of the General Counsel
Mail Stop 0-15D21
Washington, DC 20555-0001
Catherine.Scott@nrc.gov
Christopher.Hair@nrc.gov

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of the Secretary of the Commission
Mail Stop 0-16C1
Washington, DC 20555-0001
hearingdocket@nrc.gov

OGC Mail Center
OGCMailCenter@nrc.gov

E. Roy Hawken, Chairman
Chief Administrative Judge
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel
Mail Stop T-3F23
Washington, DC 20555-0001
Roy.Hawken@nrc.gov

Tyson R. Smith, Esq.
Winston & Strawn, LLP
101 California Street
San Francisco, CA 94111
TrSmith@winston.com

Kenneth Kalman
Office of Nuclear Material Safety, Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001
Kenneth.Kalman@nrc.gov



Charmaine White Face, Coordinator
Defenders of the Black Hills
PO Box 2003
Rapid City, SD 57709

Dated at Rapid City, SD
this 15th day of January, 2016