



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

APR 09 2015

Mr. Andrew Persinko
Deputy Director
Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery, and Waste Programs
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop TWFN-8F5
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Mr. Persinko:

I am writing to request NRC's regulatory expertise and technical assistance on the Design Review Team for construction of a repository for Northeast Church Rock (NECR) Mine waste on the United Nuclear Corporation (UNC) Mill Site. As you know, on April 27, 2015, the Environmental Protection Agency and the United Nuclear Corporation and General Electric Company (UNC/GE) entered into a settlement agreement that covers UNC/GE's completion of the design of the NECR cleanup and disposal facility at the UNC Mill Site. While we recognize that NRC's approval process does not begin until the design is completed and submitted with a license amendment request, NRC's expertise is needed to assist EPA during our review process. Proceeding to construction on this project would require both issuance of a license amendment from the NRC and signing a Consent Decree between EPA and UNC/GE.

EPA recognizes that providing this assistance to EPA requires significant contribution of NRC staff resources to review documents, participate on conference calls and in person meetings with both EPA and the larger design team, and prepare written and verbal comments on design deliverables.

My staff will be coordinating with yours to develop a mutually agreeable process and schedule to efficiently obtain NRC's valuable expertise. Please contact me or ask your staff to contact Sara Jacobs at 415-972-3564 or Jacobs.sara@epa.gov if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you again for your continued partnership on this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Clancy Tenley".

Clancy Tenley
Assistant Director
Partnerships, Land Revitalization & Cleanup Branch

Cc: Thomas McLaughlin, Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Deborah Barr, Department of Energy