April 27, 2016

Mr. John Eagle
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe
P.O. Box D
Ft. Yates, ND 58538

SUBJECT: STRATA ENERGY, INC. – ROSS IN SITU URANIUM RECOVERY PROJECT – PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION – REQUESTING REVIEW OF DETERMINATIONS OF ELIGIBILITY

Dear Mr. Eagle:

Please consider the information in this letter privileged and confidential. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is asking for your review and comment on the eligibility of sites for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) for the Ross In Situ Uranium Recovery Project (Ross Project). We are specifically reaching out to the tribal members who participated in the two tribal field surveys (Class III cultural resource inventories) within the Ross Project area in May and June of 2013. These survey efforts included representatives of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma, Crow Creek Sioux Tribe, Eastern Shoshone Tribe, Fort Belknap Indian Community, Northern Arapaho Tribe, Northern Cheyenne Tribe, Rosebud Sioux Tribe, Santee Sioux Tribe, Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians, and the Yankton Sioux Tribe.

As a result of these surveys, the Tribes: (a) identified and recorded sites within the 1,721-acre Ross Project area with tribal religious and cultural significance; (b) made recommendations regarding the sites' NRHP eligibility; (c) provided a preliminary identification of potential Ross Project effects to those sites; and (d) made preliminary recommendations for adverse effects mitigation strategies. These survey results were incorporated into the "NRC Tribal Field Surveys of the Ross Project Area" report dated December 4, 2014.

This report contained a total of 18 traditional cultural property (TCP) sites and one feature, identified during the tribal field surveys. Four of these sites remain unevaluated for listing in the NRHP. The NRC has reviewed and evaluated the information in the report regarding these sites (48CK2216, 48CK2217, 48CK2223, and 48CK2224). At this time we are seeking your review and input on the information provided in Enclosures 1 and 2 as it relates to the NRHP eligibility of these sites, before proceeding to a determination of eligibility under Criterion A, B, C and D. Enclosure 1 consists of an updated Ross Project site map with the locations of the TCPs. Enclosure 2 contains confidential information extracted from the tribal field survey report and is being provided to the Bureau of Land Management and to those Indian Tribes who participated in the survey. If the NRC does not receive any further information or input from the Indian Tribes on these sites; then based on the information received to date, the NRC would be making a determination that these four sites are not eligible under Criterion A, B, C and D.

Please review and provide your comments on the eligibility of these sites within 30 days of receipt of this letter (on or about June 1, 2016). The NRC will be holding a Ross Programmatic Agreement consultation call on May 2, 2016 at 1:00 pm MDT, during this call any questions regarding this process can be discussed. The call in information is as follows: 1-888-485-4605, Passcode: 15655. Prior to this meeting, if you have questions or require additional information please contact Ms. Jean Trefethen at (301) 415-0867, or via email at: Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA JMuir-Quintero for/

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

Docket No.: 40-9091
License No.: SUA-1601

Enclosures:
1. Ross Project Site Map
2. Site Descriptions and Photographs

cc w/enclosures:
Mr. Dave Archambault, II, Chairman
Ms. Kelly Morgan, Tribal Archaeologist

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