



Timothy L. Nuvangyaoma
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Clark W. Tenakhongva
VICE-CHAIRMAN

December 23, 2019

Cynthia I. Roman, Chief
Attention: Ashley Waldron, Project Manager
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Environmental Review Branch
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental and Financial Support
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Dear Ms. Roman,

This letter is in response to your correspondence dated November 26, 2019, with enclosed cultural resources survey reports regarding the proposed transfer of mine waste from the Northeast Churchrock Mine Site to the United Nuclear Corporation Churchrock Mill Site, Docket Number 40-8907.

The Hopi Tribe claims cultural affiliation to earlier identifiable cultural groups in New Mexico. The Hopi Cultural Preservation Office supports the identification and avoidance of our ancestral sites, and we consider the archaeological sites of our ancestors to be Traditional Cultural Properties. Therefore, we appreciate the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission's continuing solicitation of our input and your efforts to address our concerns.

The Hopi Cultural Preservation Office has reviewed the enclosed cultural resources survey reports that identify National Register eligible prehistoric sites. Regarding Navajo sites, we defer to the Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department. However, if identified National Register eligible prehistoric sites cannot be avoided by project activities, this proposal may result in adverse effects to cultural resources significant to the Hopi Tribe. And therefore we request continuing consultation on this proposal including being provided with a copy of any proposed draft treatment plan for review and comment.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Terry Morgart at the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office at 928-734-3619 or tmorgart@hopi.nsn.us. Thank again you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stewart B. Koyiyumptewa". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Stewart B. Koyiyumptewa, Program Manager
Hopi Cultural Preservation Office

xc: Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department