

## Diaz Toro, Diana

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**From:** Quintero, Jessie  
**Sent:** Friday, August 09, 2019 5:11 PM  
**To:** Johnson, Elizabeth  
**Subject:** RE: RE: REQUEST: Review NRC preliminary determination regarding historical and cultural resources at the Westinghouse facility in Richland County, SC

Elizabeth,

Thanks again for taking the time to meet with me on July 25<sup>th</sup>, it was a pleasure to meet you and Keely. I had two take-aways-- (1) a desire for Westinghouse to notify SHPO if a structural remains or artifacts were discovered during the installation of wells and borings and (2) consideration of a programmatic agreement to cover future land-disturbing activities. I checked the procedures for the groundwater well installation (sent to you in a previous email) and they do indicate that Westinghouse will notify the SHPO if remains/artifacts are discovered so I believe the existing procedure covers #1. I have mentioned the programmatic agreement (#2) to Westinghouse but have not heard back from them.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Jessie

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**From:** Johnson, Elizabeth <EJohnson@scdah.sc.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:39 PM  
**To:** Quintero, Jessie <Jessie.Quintero@nrc.gov>  
**Subject:** [External\_Sender] RE: REQUEST: Review NRC preliminary determination regarding historical and cultural resources at the Westinghouse facility in Richland County, SC

Jessie:

We are free that morning, so just let me know what your time preference is. I think an hour or even less will be enough time.

Thanks again,

Elizabeth



Elizabeth M. Johnson  
Director, Historical Services, D-SHPO  
State Historic Preservation Office  
SC Department of Archives & History  
8301 Parklane Road  
Columbia, SC 29223  
Ph: 803.896.6168 Fax: 803.896.6167 <https://scdah.sc.gov/historic-preservation>  
*Note that our web site address has changed.*

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**From:** Quintero, Jessie [<mailto:Jessie.Quintero@nrc.gov>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:31 PM

**To:** Johnson, Elizabeth <[EJohnson@scdah.sc.gov](mailto:EJohnson@scdah.sc.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: RE: RE: RE: REQUEST: Review NRC preliminary determination regarding historical and cultural resources at the Westinghouse facility in Richland County, SC

Elizabeth,

If it fits in your schedule, I can be there anytime between 9a-12 on Thursday, July 25<sup>th</sup>. I think an hour would be plenty of time?

Jessie

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**From:** Johnson, Elizabeth <[EJohnson@scdah.sc.gov](mailto:EJohnson@scdah.sc.gov)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:50 PM

**To:** Quintero, Jessie <[Jessie.Quintero@nrc.gov](mailto:Jessie.Quintero@nrc.gov)>

**Subject:** [External\_Sender] RE: RE: RE: REQUEST: Review NRC preliminary determination regarding historical and cultural resources at the Westinghouse facility in Richland County, SC

Thanks Jessie. We appreciate your interest in meeting with us. If the travel arrangements don't work out for a meeting in person, we can always do a phone call.

Thanks,



Elizabeth M. Johnson

Director, Historical Services, D-SHPO

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**From:** Quintero, Jessie [<mailto:Jessie.Quintero@nrc.gov>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 16, 2019 3:29 PM

**To:** Johnson, Elizabeth <[EJohnson@scdah.sc.gov](mailto:EJohnson@scdah.sc.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: RE: RE: REQUEST: Review NRC preliminary determination regarding historical and cultural resources at the Westinghouse facility in Richland County, SC

Elizabeth,

Attached is a copy of the procedure Westinghouse provided to DHEC and NRC regarding discovery of unanticipated cultural resources and human remains. Also, I included a copy of a figure that shows proposed locations of borings and groundwater wells. The figure doesn't indicate previously-disturbed areas but the areas south of the facility is where I

have been focusing. It looks like less than 50 borings/wells in areas outside of the immediate facility. There could be more borings/wells depending on what is found during the investigation.

I ask that this material not be shared outside your agency. The files are encrypted with a password which I will send in a separate email.

I will work on my travel more this week and try to firm up a time on either the 24<sup>th</sup> or 25<sup>th</sup> to come by your office.

Thanks,

Jessie

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**From:** Johnson, Elizabeth <[EJohnson@scdah.sc.gov](mailto:EJohnson@scdah.sc.gov)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 16, 2019 2:56 PM

**To:** Quintero, Jessie <[Jessie.Quintero@nrc.gov](mailto:Jessie.Quintero@nrc.gov)>

**Subject:** [External\_Sender] RE: RE: REQUEST: Review NRC preliminary determination regarding historical and cultural resources at the Westinghouse facility in Richland County, SC

Jessie:

Thanks for providing additional information and for offering to meet with us. I'm available all day on the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, and also the afternoon of the 26<sup>th</sup>. If you have time for a quick meeting that would be great. Our offices are about 25 minutes from the airport, and probably about 45 minutes from the Westinghouse facility.

Elizabeth



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**From:** Quintero, Jessie [<mailto:Jessie.Quintero@nrc.gov>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 16, 2019 2:44 PM

**To:** Johnson, Elizabeth <[EJohnson@scdah.sc.gov](mailto:EJohnson@scdah.sc.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: RE: REQUEST: Review NRC preliminary determination regarding historical and cultural resources at the Westinghouse facility in Richland County, SC

Hi Mrs. Johnson,

The environmental report does not discuss the groundwater well installation. However, I can provide the procedures and some estimates for number of borings/wells. The approval for installing the groundwater wells happens through DHEC. I'll send that information shortly.

I also wanted to offer up that I will be down in Columbia on Thursday (25<sup>th</sup>) for a community meeting being led by DHEC and could come to your office. If yall are available, I could meet you on Wed-Fri. I have not made my travel arrangements yet so I have some flexibility.

Thanks,

Jessie

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**From:** Johnson, Elizabeth <[EJohnson@scdah.sc.gov](mailto:EJohnson@scdah.sc.gov)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 16, 2019 11:25 AM

**To:** Quintero, Jessie <[Jessie.Quintero@nrc.gov](mailto:Jessie.Quintero@nrc.gov)>

**Subject:** [External\_Sender] RE: REQUEST: Review NRC preliminary determination regarding historical and cultural resources at the Westinghouse facility in Richland County, SC

Thank you for your email. To help us better understand the potential for any effects to cultural resources we need more information about what the well installation process would consist of...how large is the area of disturbance, are there any staging areas etc?. Is that information within the new environmental report, if so, can you point me to the page number(s) where I can find the information.

Also, while I know the number and location are not yet known, could you give a general estimate...is it likely to be 5 or 50 for example?

Finally, please provide a copy of the procedure to handle inadvertent discoveries from land disturbing activities, or provide a reference to it an existing document.

Thanks in advance for providing the additional information,

Elizabeth



Elizabeth M. Johnson  
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**From:** Quintero, Jessie [<mailto:Jessie.Quintero@nrc.gov>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 09, 2019 10:57 AM

**To:** Johnson, Elizabeth <[EJohnson@scdah.sc.gov](mailto:EJohnson@scdah.sc.gov)>

**Subject:** REQUEST: Review NRC preliminary determination regarding historical and cultural resources at the Westinghouse facility in Richland County, SC

Good afternoon Ms. Johnson,

I am following up from a call we had with you on April 5, 2019, about the status of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) ongoing review of a license renewal application from Westinghouse for its Columbia Fuel Fabrication Facility in Hopkins, South Carolina. If approved, the facility would continue to operate for an additional 40 years, making fuel assemblies for commercial nuclear power plants. When we first began the review, the NRC sent a letter to your office in May 2015, requesting concurrence on the NRC's determination that the 40-year renewal of the operating license for Westinghouse's facility would not adversely affect any historical or cultural resources at the site [[ML15104A268](#)]. On May 28, 2015, your office responded with concurrence on our finding [[ML15161A537](#)].

In June 2018, the NRC published a Final Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) related to the 40-year license renewal request [[ML18120A318](#)]. The NRC concluded that it did not expect any impact on historic or cultural resources from continued operation because no new construction was planned. Further, Westinghouse has a procedure in place to handle inadvertent discoveries during land-disturbing activities. However, shortly after the EA publication, there was an equipment leak that released contamination into the subsurface in July 2018. In addition, Westinghouse was conducting additional investigations into a previous buried pipe leak. Therefore, the NRC decided to re-open its environmental review.

Westinghouse submitted a new environmental report to the NRC for its review [[ML19088A100](#)]. The proposed action—40 year license renewal—has not changed. However, Westinghouse will be conducting further investigation into water and soil contamination which includes collecting lithographic samples and installing groundwater monitoring wells in previously undisturbed areas of the site. The exact locations and number of wells are not known at this time. Well installation activities are short-term and cause minimal land disturbance. Once installed, the wells would be sampled several times a year.

The NRC concluded in its 2018 EA that the NRC does not expect any impact on historic or cultural resources from continued operation because no new construction was planned. However, your May 2015 letter noted that the site has a "very high probability of significant archaeological properties," and that any future ground disturbance in previously undisturbed areas should be submitted to your office for review and comment. Therefore, we are coming back to your office to address the new activities occurring in undisturbed portions of the site.

The installation of new groundwater wells will be performed by a contractor and they will follow their procedures to avoid subsurface objects (e.g., human remains, underground utilities) and thus should be able to avoid digging in an area that might have remains or artifacts. Further, Westinghouse has a procedure in place to address inadvertent discoveries and Westinghouse must follow state law. Therefore, the NRC believes its previous conclusion—no impacts to any historic or cultural resources expected from continued operation—remains the same. **The NRC staff is requesting your office's concurrence with the NRC's preliminary conclusions within 30 days of this email (August 9, 2019).** The NRC is also reaching out to the Catawba Indian Nation to make them aware of the new activities. The NRC intends to publish a Draft Revised EA for public review and comment and your office will also have an opportunity to provide comments on it. We will send information on how to comment once the Draft Revised EA is published. The schedule is still being developed.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to give me a call or email me.

Sincerely,

Jessie Muir Quintero

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**Jessie Muir Quintero**

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