

## UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

June 29, 2022

VIA EMAIL Thomas Brings Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Natural Resources Regulatory Agency Oglala Sioux Tribe P.O. Box 320 Pine Ridge, SD 57770 t.brings@oglala.org

## SUBJECT: OGLALA SIOUX TRIBE REVIEW OF THE PRELIMINARY DRAFT SUPPLEMENT TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR LICENSE RENEWAL OF THE CROW BUTTE RESOURCES INC. IN SITU URANIUM RECOVERY FACILITY IN DAWES COUNTY, NEBRASKA. (DOCKET NUMBER: 040-8943)

Dear Thomas Brings:

The staff of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has prepared a preliminary draft Supplement to the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the renewal of source materials license number SUA-1534 for the Crow Butte Resources, Inc. (CBR) in-situ uranium recovery facility in Crawford (Dawes County), Nebraska. This draft Supplement, which expands upon the cultural resources analysis from the original EA Agencywide Documents and Access Management System (ADAMS) ML14288A517, describes sites of historic, cultural, or religious significance to the Oglala Sioux Tribe that were identified in a field survey of the CBR license area conducted in November 2021 and evaluates the potential environmental impacts of the license renewal on those sites. The NRC staff has prepared this draft Supplement in response to the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board's partial initial decision LBP-16-7, which found that the staff did not meet its identification obligations under the National Historic Preservation Act and "failed to take a hard look at potential [traditional cultural properties] within the Crow Butte license area" under the National Environmental Policy Act.

The draft Supplement is pre-decisional information that is provided to the Oglala Sioux Tribe under the March 6, 2009, protective order for the Crow Butte license renewal proceeding (ML090650407) and is limited to use by individuals representing the Oglala Sioux Tribe who have completed non-disclosure declarations pursuant to the protective order. The NRC staff

requests that the Oglala Sioux Tribe provide its comments on the draft Supplement by July 29, 2022, 30 days from the date that the NRC staff provided the document for review. Comments on the draft Supplement or this review process may be submitted to the NRC by email to <u>Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov</u>.

Sincerely, Jun M. Quintero Signed by Quintero, Jessie on 06/29/22

Jessie M. Quintero, Chief Environmental Review Branch Division of Rulemaking, Environmental, and Financial Support Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-1050

License No. SUA-1534

Enclosure: As stated

cc: Harold Salway Andrew Reid, Esq. Letter to the Oglala Sioux Tribe, Re., Review of the Preliminary Draft Environmental Assessment -Supplement to the Environmental Assessment for Crow Butte License Renewal DATE June 29, 2022

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## ADAMS Accession No.: ML22180A216; Ltr ML22178A128

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