



CHAIR

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

August 17, 2023

Manuel Heart, Chairman  
Ute Mountain Ute Tribe  
P.O. Box JJ  
Towaoc, CO 81334

Dear Chairman Heart:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am responding to your March 27, 2023, letter addressed to the NRC, U.S. Department of Interior, U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requesting formal consultation regarding development of a strategic uranium reserve.

The NRC's Tribal Policy Statement established principles to promote effective government-to-government interactions with Federally recognized American Indian and Alaska Native Tribes, and to encourage and facilitate Tribal involvement in areas that the NRC has jurisdiction. In accordance with these principles, the NRC is coordinating with the other Federal agencies addressed in your letter and supported an interagency meeting on July 7, 2023, with you and your General Counsel, Peter Ortego, to discuss the scope and logistics of future consultation. The NRC will also be supporting the DOE's interagency consultation meeting scheduled for August 24-25, 2023. We will continue to work with Mr. Ortego to coordinate meeting logistics.

If you have any questions, please contact Kevin Williams, Director, Division of Materials Safety, Security, State, and Tribal Programs, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards. Kevin can be contacted via phone at (301) 415-3340, or via email at [Kevin.Williams@nrc.gov](mailto:Kevin.Williams@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christopher T. Hanson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and a distinct "H" at the end.

Christopher T. Hanson