



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

May 18, 2026

Michell Hicks, Principal Chief
Easter Band of Cherokee Indians
88 Council House Loop Road
Cherokee, NC 28719

SUBJECT: CONCLUSION OF SECTION 106 CONSULTATION REGARDING THE
GLOBAL LASER ENRICHMENT LLC LICENSE APPLICATION FOR A
URANIUM ENRICHMENT FACILITY IN MCCRACKEN COUNTY, KENTUCKY
(DOCKET NUMBER: 70-7033)

Dear Principal Chief Michell Hicks:

The purpose of this letter is for the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff to document the conclusion of the Section 106 consultation process under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (NHPA), for the NRC staff's review of the Global Laser Enrichment LLC (GLE) application for a license to construct and operate a uranium enrichment facility near Paducah in McCracken County, Kentucky (the undertaking). In accordance with Title 36 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (36 CFR) paragraph 800.8(c), the NRC is complying with Section 106 of the NHPA through the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA), process in lieu of the procedures set forth in sections 36 CFR 800.3 through 800.6. In addition, on October 31, 2025, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Louisville District (USACE-Louisville District), agreed to be a cooperating agency in the preparation of the NRC's EIS in light of USACE-Louisville District's regulatory authority over the discharge of dredged or fill material (e.g., soil, rock, debris) at GLE's Paducah Laser Enrichment Facility, including aquatic resources under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

The NRC staff initiated consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA with the Kentucky Heritage Council (KHC), which serves as the State Historic Preservation Office, (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System [ADAMS] Accession No. [ML25353A577](#)) and Native American Tribes ([ML25353A343](#)) on December 23, 2025. On March 23, 2026, the NRC staff transmitted its determination of no adverse effects to the KHC ([ML26075E906](#)) and Native American Tribes ([ML26061A283](#)).

On March 27, 2026, the NRC staff published a draft EIS this project for public review and comment pursuant to NRC's NEPA-implementing procedures in 10 CFR Part 51 ([ML25225A085](#), [91 Federal Register 14882](#)). The draft EIS was provided to you, the Tribes, and the KHC for review and comment via electronic distribution. The draft EIS documents the NRC staff's identification of historic and cultural resources and historic properties, analysis of potential effects of the proposed action on historic and cultural resources and historic properties, and the NRC staff's determination of no adverse effect to historic properties. The 45-day draft EIS comment period also provided an opportunity for the NRC staff to gather input on the Section 106 process under 36 CFR 800.8(c) and NEPA concurrently. The NRC staff did not change the determination of no adverse effect to historic properties based on public comments or correspondence from Tribes. The final EIS will be available in the NRC's ADAMS Public

Documents collection and will be provided to you via electronic distribution when it is published.

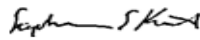
On April 13, 2026, the KHC concurred with NRC's no adverse effect determination for this undertaking ([ML26111A107](#), KHC Log No. 260427) and the NRC staff has not received an objection from a consulting party. Therefore, consistent with 36 CFR 800.5(c)(1), NRC can proceed with the proposed undertaking and in accordance with 36 CFR 800.5(d)(1), the NRC has fulfilled its Section 106 responsibilities.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice for Domestic Licensing Proceedings and Issuance of Orders," a copy of this letter will be available for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of NRC's ADAMS.

Please direct any questions you may have to the environmental project manager, Amy Minor, by phone at 817-200-1454 or via email at amy.hesterminor@nrc.gov.

Thank you for your participation; the NRC staff looks forward to working with you on future projects.

Sincerely,



Signed by Koenick, Stephen
on 05/18/26

Stephen S. Koenick, Acting Chief
Environmental Technical Review Branch 1 and 2
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,
and Financial Support
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No. 70-7033

cc: GovDelivery

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