



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

July 16, 2026

Lucie Roberts, Chairwoman
Sac & Fox Tribe of the Mississippi in Iowa
349 Meskwaki Road
Tama, IA 52339

SUBJECT: SOLICITATION OF INTEREST FOR A VIRTUAL GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT MEETING REGARDING THE NRC'S REVIEW OF NEXTERA ENERGY DUANE ARNOLD, LLC'S LICENSING AND REGULATORY REQUESTS FOR REAUTHORIZATION OF POWER OPERATIONS AT DUANE ARNOLD ENERGY CENTER (EPID NUMBER: L- 2025-LNE-0009) (DOCKET NUMBER: 50-331)

Dear Chairwoman Roberts:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) initiated National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (NHPA), Section 106 consultation with Federally recognized Tribes by letter dated May 14, 2026 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Package Accession No. [ML26126A066](#)), regarding the environmental review of a series of licensing and regulatory requests submitted by NextEra Energy Duane Arnold, LLC (NEDA) that seek NRC approvals to reauthorize power operations at the Duane Arnold Energy Center (DAEC). The DAEC is located along the Cedar River in Linn County, Iowa. The facility is located approximately 8 miles northwest of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Energy Dominance Financing is serving as a cooperating agency for the environmental review. The NRC is the lead Federal agency under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA), and the NHPA Section 106 consultation for this undertaking.

Hard copies of the letter initiating NHPA Section 106 consultation were mailed to Tribal Leadership and electronic copies were emailed to Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPOs). In that letter, the NRC staff indicated that it was considering holding an informational meeting with Federally recognized Tribal governments to provide an overview of the environmental review. Several THPOs expressed interest in scheduling the informational meeting; NRC staff held this meeting on June 16, 2026. In addition, on June 5, 2026, a THPO recommended that the NRC staff contact Tribal Leadership for NHPA Section 106 consultation directly to determine interest in a government-to-government meeting.

Pursuant to Title 36 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (36 CFR) 800.8(c)(1)(iii), the NRC wishes to ensure that Indian Tribes who might attach religious and cultural significance to historic properties in the area of potential effects are afforded the opportunity to identify their concerns, provide advice on the identification and evaluation of historic properties, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance, and, if necessary, participate in the resolution of any adverse effects to such properties.

The NRC staff would like to offer a formal virtual government-to-government consultation meeting to discuss the environmental review and the findings of the draft environmental assessment, which is expected to be issued in late July 2026. This meeting would be held during the week of August 17, 2026, pending confirmation of Tribal Leadership availability. The meeting would not be recorded or transcribed, and additional information, including an agenda, would be provided by separate communication.

The NRC staff appreciates the opportunity to consult with Federally recognized Tribes. During the meeting, the NRC staff would present an overview of NEDA's licensing and regulatory requests, discuss the preliminary findings in the draft environmental assessment, and listen to and answer questions. If interested, please let us know your preferred dates and times for this meeting during the week of August 17, 2026.

If you have any questions regarding the NRC's NHPA Section 106 consultation or environmental review, please contact Jennifer Davis, Archaeologist, at 301-415-3835 or via email at Jennifer.Davis@nrc.gov; or the Environmental Project Manager, Kim Conway, at 301-415-1335 or via email at Kimberly.Conway@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

Victor Cusumano, Director
Division of Licensing Projects II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No: 50-331

cc: Tieranny Keahna, THPO
tieranny.keahna@meskwaki-nsn.gov

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S. Burnell, HQ/OPA

C. Wolf, OCA

N. Morgan

D. Piskura, RIII

C. Conrad, PNNL (Cyler.N.Conrad@pnnl.gov)

A. Williamson, DOE (Alicia.Williamson@hq.doe.gov)