

April 25, 2007

The Honorable Margaret Spellings
Secretary of Education
U.S. Department of Education
Washington, DC 20202

Dear Madam Secretary:

In accordance with Executive Order 13270 and in response to your letter of February 14, 2007, I am pleased to submit the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) FY 2006 Annual Performance Report on Executive Agency Actions to Assist Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs). Consistent with Executive Order 13270, NRC has established dollar goals to support TCUs in FY 2007.

During the fourth quarter of FY 2006, the NRC implemented a Minority Serving Institutions Program (MSIP). The MSIP provides financial assistance to a broad range of support services and innovative programs and activities that address the needs of TCUs and their students and faculty. In addition to research and development, these programs and activities include mentoring, leadership development, instruction, training, education activities, technical assistance, and recruitment initiatives. Support services include awarding cooperative agreements, grants, fellowships, internships, scholarships, tuition and housing assistance, and direct institutional subsidies.

In FY 2006, funding was not provided to TCUs under the MSIP because the program was implemented at the end of the fiscal year. In FY 2007, NRC has established funding for the MSIP at \$167,500. In FY 2008, NRC projects its funding for the MSIP to either increase or remain stable.

As requested, I am providing a copy of NRC's report to Ms. Deborah J. Cavett, Executive Director, White House Initiative on Tribal Colleges and Universities. Should you or Ms. Cavett have questions, please contact me or Ms. Corenthis B. Kelley, Director, Office of Small Business and Civil Rights. Ms. Kelly can be reached by telephone at 301-415-7380.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Dale E. Klein

Enclosure:
As stated

cc: Deborah J. Cavett

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's FY 2006 Annual Performance Report on Executive Agency Actions to Assist Tribal Colleges and Universities

A. **Executive Summary**

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) mission is to regulate the civilian commercial, industrial, academic, and medical uses of nuclear materials, in order to protect public health and safety and promote the common defense and security. NRC is responsible for licensing and regulating commercial nuclear power plants; research, test, and training reactors; nuclear fuel cycle facilities; medical, academic, and industrial uses of radioactive materials; and the transport, storage, and disposal of radioactive materials and wastes.

The Energy Policy Act of 2005 authorizes the NRC to establish and participate in outreach programs and activities with institutions of higher education, including minority serving institutions (MSIs) such as tribal colleges and universities (TCUs).

1) *Goals and measurable objectives outlined in FY 2006*

NRC's goal for FY 2006 was to develop and implement a program that would establish and enable NRC to participate in partnership programs with TCUs to strengthen their capacity to educate and train students as well as conduct research in science, engineering, technology, law, and fields that NRC deems critical to its mission. NRC achieved its goal during FY 2006.

2) *Comparison of FY 2006 performance to FY 2006 Performance Plan*

NRC's FY 2006 Performance Plan committed to implementing a Minority Serving Institutions Program (MSIP), which the agency accomplished.

3) *Programs (new and/or ongoing) that show specific benefit to tribal colleges*

NRC's New Initiative: NRC's MSIP-funded programs and activities benefit TCUs and satisfy Executive Order 13270. The MSIP mandates include (1) strengthening institutional viability; (2) improving financial management; (3) developing institutional capacity through the use of new and emerging technologies; (4) enhancing physical infrastructure to facilitate more efficient operation, and effective recruitment and retention of students and faculty; and (5) helping to implement the "No Child Left Behind Act of 2001" (Public Law 107-110) and meeting other high standards of educational achievement. Under the newly implemented MSIP, the NRC funds programs and activities offer specific benefits to TCU in the following areas:

- Transferring and exchanging knowledge and skills in areas important to the work of the Commission
- Offering mentoring, training, leadership development, instruction, technical assistance, and research and development
- Conducting program evaluation and recruitment and retention initiatives
- Providing direct institutional subsidies and money for facilities and equipment acquisition
- Making available instruction and learning experiences through developmental programs, activities, workshops, and skills-building sessions

- Ensuring opportunities for training, work experience (e.g., internships, fellowships, apprenticeship, on-the-job training), and exposure to new and emerging occupations and professions in science, engineering, law, information technology, and fields important to the work of the Commission
- Providing financial and non-financial assistance to students and faculty through internships, fellowships, scholarships, and tuition and housing assistance

On-going NRC Programs: NRC conducts other outreach programs including the following:

- Cooperatives
- Graduate Fellowships
- Honor Law Graduate Internships
- Internships
- Judicial Law Clerk Internships
- Nuclear Safety Professional Development
- Scholarships and Fellowships for Service
- University Champions

NRC On-going Recruitment Initiatives:

NRC has a long-standing practice of engaging in affirmative recruitment practices, which include recruiting and outreach at institutions of higher education and affiliate professional organizations. In FY 2006, NRC conducted outreach activities directed towards Native Americans at the Conference of the Society of American Chicanos and Native Americans in Science, held in Tampa, Florida. The NRC staff also participated in the American Indian Science and Engineering Society's (AISES') Government Relations Council meeting held on September 21, 2006, specifically in the workshops "Partnering for Progress" and "Recruitment, Employment and Advancing AISES and American Indians/Alaska Natives (AI/AN) in Federal Agencies."

4) *Programs implemented that exemplified increased Federal opportunities for tribal colleges*

In FY 2006, NRC increased opportunities for TCUs by implementing the MSIP and the NRC's Nuclear Education Grant Program (NEGP). While the MSIP specifically funds programs and activities aimed at MSIs, including TCUs, the NEGP is more encompassing as it funds institutions of higher education, including MSIs. NRC provides NEGP grants to support courses, studies, training, curricula, and disciplines pertaining to nuclear safety, security, or environmental protection and other fields determined to be important to the work of the agency. Through the NEGP, the NRC has made available approximately \$4.7M to institutions of higher education through a Federal funding opportunity posted on <http://www.grants.gov>. As a result of the NEGP initiative, NRC anticipates that 20 grants will be awarded in FY 2007.

5) *Total awarded funding to tribal colleges in FY 2006*

NRC committed to implementing the MSIP in the agency's "Three-Year Plan to Implement Executive Order 13270 on Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs)," provided to the U.S. Department of Education on December 15, 2006. NRC's goal for FY 2006 was to complete implementation of the program with no awards to be made in FY 2006. Although the agency did not provide funding to TCUs in FY 2006, the agency did sponsor an internship for a TCU student through a \$9,900 grant to the American University's Washington Internship for Native

Students program. In FY 2007, NRC plans to award \$167,500 to TSUs. For FY 2008, NRC projects its funding for the MSIP to either increase or remain stable.

6) Agency funding increases or decreases for tribal colleges from FY 2005 to FY 2006

The MSIP was implemented during the last quarter of FY 2006 without any funds being dispersed to tribal colleges.

C. Summary of FY06 Agency Awards to Individual Tribal Colleges and Universities

Agency: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission														
Tribal Colleges and Universities	ST	Research & Development	Direct Institutional Subsidies	Program Evaluation	Training & Technical Assistance	Facilities & Equipment	Fellowships, Internships, Recruitment, IPAs	Student Tuition Assistance, Scholarships and Other Aid	Economic Development	Administrative Infrastructure	Third Party Awards	Private Sector Involvement	Other Activities	Grand Total
BAY MILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE	MI													0
BLACKFEET COMMUNITY COLLEGE	MT													0
CANKDESKA CIKANA COMMUNITY COLLEGE	ND													0
CHIEF DULL KNIFE COLLEGE	MT													0
COLLEGE OF MENOMINEE NATION	WI													0
CROWNPOINT INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY	NM													0
DINE COLLEGE	AZ													0
FOND DU LAC TRIBAL & COMMUNITY COLLEGE	MN													0
FORT BELKNAP COLLEGE	MT													0
FORT BERTHOLD COMMUNITY COLLEGE	ND													0
FORT PECK COMMUNITY COLLEGE	MT													0
HASKELL INDIAN NATIONS UNIVERSITY	KS													0
ILISAGVIK COLLEGE	AK													0
INSTITUTE OF AMERICAN INDIAN ARTS	NM													0
LAC COURTE OREILLES OJIBWA COMM. COLLEGE	WI													0
LEECH LAKE TRIBAL COLLEGE	MN													0
LITTLE BIG HORN COLLEGE	MT													0
LITTLE PRIEST TRIBAL COLLEGE	NE													0
NEBRASKA INDIAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE	NE													0
NORTHWEST INDIAN COLLEGE	WA													0
OGLALA LAKOTA COLLEGE	SD													0
SAGINAW CHIPPEWA TRIBAL COLLEGE	MI													0
SALISH KOOTENAI COLLEGE	MT													0
SI TANKA/HURON UNIVERSITY	SD													0
SINTE GLESKA UNIVERSITY	SD													0
SISETON WAHPETON COMMUNITY COLLEGE	SD													0
SITTING BULL COLLEGE	ND													0
SOUTHWESTERN INDIAN POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE	NM													0
STONE CHILD COLLEGE	MT													0
TOHONO O'ODHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE	AZ													0
TURTLE MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE	ND													0
UNITED TRIBES TECHNICAL COLLEGE	ND													0
WHITE EARTH TRIBAL AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE	MN													0
														0
														0
														0
Category Totals		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Notes:														
Name of Agency Liaison: Corenthis B. Kelley Title: Director, Office of Small Business and Civil Rights														
Phone: (301) 415-7380 Fax: (301) 415-5953 Email: cbk@nrc.gov														
Signature of Agency Head: Dale E. Klein, Chairman /RA/														

Date: 04/25/07

**FY 2006 Annual Federal Performance Report
Transmittal Sheet**

Department/Agency: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Signature of Agency

Head: /RA/
Dale E. Klein, Chairman

Name of Agency

Representative: Corenthis B. Kelley

Liaison: Corenthis B. Kelley

Date Submitted: 04/25/07

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