

Box 1153
Wagner, SD 57380



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OFFICERS:

Thurman Cournoyer, Sr., Chairman
Ida Ashes, Vice Chairwoman
Glenford Sully, Secretary
Leo O'Connor, Treasurer

COUNCIL:

Jason Cooke
Nicholas Cournoyer
Gail Hubbeling
Brenda Zephier
Jody Allen Zephier

May 1, 2013

Nathan Goodman
NRC Project Manager

RE: Santee and Crow TCP Survey for Crow Butte in-situ uranium recovery license renewal.

Dear Mr. Goodman:

First, the Yankton Sioux Tribe is very taken back and insulted at your agencies lack of good faith with us as an indigenous nation. The interests of your agency clearly are with the applicants regarding the many projects your agency has management control over. Our religious freedom is bound to the land; the religious and cultural sites within and those visible on the landscape. How are we to continue as a people without being given the opportunity to identify and preserve these places of reverence? Our religious freedom is not in a book of words written by men in barbaric times. Ours is the very landscape you are managing and destroying. Just because our identity/culture is not written does not mean it does not exist. The Sioux Tribes of the Oceti Sakowin are very unique in that it is a woman who comes to us on behalf of the Great Spirit. She gave us our way of life in order that we live in harmony with the land and all of creation. Her legacy is what separates us from the Crow, Turtle Mountain, Three Affiliated, Ojibwa, Pawnee, ect. This is what we seek on the landscape.

This report from the Santee and Crow Tribes is unacceptable, there's no substance, there's no significant findings, and did these tribes even write this report?

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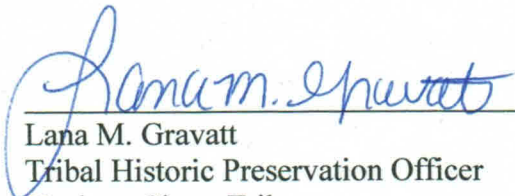
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The Yankton Sioux Tribe is requesting this project not continue until proper identification efforts are conducted and that the Yankton Sioux be given the opportunity to do this in a cooperative group effort with the other Sioux tribes. We all (Sioux tribes) tie our identity to the White Buffalo Calf cultural practices. Our cultural identity and our religious freedom are being suppressed because your agency is not listening to our concerns and responses during the 106 consultations. We are intelligent spiritual beings, respect us.



Lana M. Gravatt
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Yankton Sioux Tribe