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NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION STAKEHOLDER'S FORUM TRIBAL CAUCUS

TO: U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
FROM: RICHARD ARNOLD, TRIBAL CAUCUS
SUBJECT: COMMENTS TO TRIBAL POLICY STATEMENT -
DOCKET ID: NRC-2012-0235
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RULES AND DIRECTIVES
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USNRC

The National Transportation Stakeholder's Forum-Tribal Caucus comprised of tribally appointed representatives from throughout the United States, share a mutual interest on issues relating to the safe and routine shipments of radioactive materials on or near tribal lands.

On December 1, 2014, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) published a notice in the Federal Register announcing a Tribal Policy Statement centered on six guiding principles to promote effective Government-to-Government interactions by encouraging and facilitating increased tribal involvement.

While the six principles originally proposed serve as foundation of which to build upon, the Tribal Caucus believes the proposed principles should be expanded to include an additional Principle Policy Statement #7. Specifically, it is recommended that the existing policy statement include:

PRINCIPLE POLICY STATEMENT #7

7. NRC is committed to collaborating with tribes in regulatory activities that may have the potential of affecting tribal interests.

As subject-matter experts, the NRC will invite tribal representatives to participate on working groups developed for those activities that have the potential of impacting tribal interests, including but not limited to: Integrated Performance Evaluation Program Reviews, Rule-making and other related activities impacting or tribal governments.

Further, the NRC will present a yearly report to tribal organizations describing all agency undertakings involving or relating to Indian Tribes. Lastly, the NRC will ensure there are mechanisms in place to prevent an unfunded mandate upon any tribe, including but not limited requirements for acquiring GSA safe or other supplies and materials as stipulated in the in the advance notification rule.

Thank You!

SUNSI Review Complete

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