

August 21, 2015

The Honorable George Gholson, Chairman
The Timbisha Shoshone Tribe
621 West Line Street #109
Bishop, CA 93514

Dear Chairman Gholson:

Attached to this letter, please find an electronic copy and a paper copy of a document that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has released for public comment. This document is the draft "Supplement to the U.S. Department of Energy's Environmental Impact Statement for a Geologic Repository for the Disposal of Spent Nuclear Fuel and High-Level Radioactive Waste at Yucca Mountain, Nye County, Nevada," NUREG-2184. The NRC staff emailed you a link to this document on August 13, 2015. The document is also available electronically via the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) at Accession No. ML15223B243 and on the NRC's website, at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/nuregs/staff/sr2184/>.

The public comment period for the draft supplement began on August 21, 2015, and is expected to close on October 20, 2015. During the comment period, the NRC staff will be holding several public meetings to receive comments on the document. Information about these meetings is provided below. Note that two of the meetings will be held in Nevada, including one in Amargosa Valley.

- Teleconference, Wednesday, August 26, 2015, from 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time until 3:00 p.m. During this teleconference, the NRC staff will provide information about how to submit comments on the draft supplement. The staff will not be receiving comments on the document during this call.
- Meeting, September 3, 2015: NRC Headquarters, One White Flint North, First Floor Commission Hearing Room, 11555 Rockville Pike, Maryland 20852, from 3:00 p.m. Eastern (local) Time until 5:00 p.m. During this meeting, the NRC staff will accept comments on the draft supplement. The meeting will be webcast and a telephone line will be available.
- Meeting, September 15, 2015: Embassy Suites Convention Center, 3600 Paradise Road, Las Vegas, Nevada 89169, from 7:00 p.m. Pacific (local) Time until 9:00 p.m. The NRC staff will also host an open house from 6:00 p.m. Pacific Time until 7:00 p.m. During this meeting, the NRC staff will accept comments on the draft supplement.
- Meeting, September 17, 2015: Amargosa Community Center, 821 E. Amargosa Farm Road, Amargosa Valley, Nevada 89020, from 7:00 p.m. Pacific (local) Time until 9:00 p.m. The NRC staff will host an open house from 6:00 p.m. Pacific Time until 7:00 p.m. During this meeting, the NRC staff will accept comments on the draft supplement.

- Teleconference, October 15, 2015: Public meeting via conference call, from 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time until 4:00 p.m. During this meeting, the NRC staff will accept comments on the draft supplement.

Information about each of the meetings is posted on the NRC's public meetings web page at <http://meetings.nrc.gov/pmns/mtg> no later than 10 calendar days before the meeting date and includes the teleconference phone numbers and passcodes.

The attached supplement evaluates the potential environmental impacts on groundwater, and impacts associated with the discharge of potentially contaminated groundwater to the ground surface due to potential releases from a geologic repository for spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste at Yucca Mountain, Nye County, Nevada. The NRC staff developed this supplement to address the areas in the Department of Energy's environmental impact statements that the NRC staff identified as needing additional analysis, which is explained in the staff's 2008 Adoption Determination Report, available at ADAMS Accession No. ML082420342. The attached supplement describes the affected environment with respect to the groundwater flow path for potential contaminant releases from the repository that could be transported through the aquifer in Fortymile Wash and the Amargosa Desert, and ultimately to the Furnace Creek and Middle Basin area of Death Valley. Because members of the Timbisha Shoshone Tribe reside in Death Valley and use the water resources there, the NRC staff believes that you and other members of the Tribe may be interested in reading and commenting on the draft supplement.

If you have any questions, please contact Christine Pineda of my staff at 301-415-6789 or email us at YMEIS_supplement@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

James Rubenstone, Acting Director
Yucca Mountain Directorate
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No. 63-001

Enclosure: Draft NUREG-2184

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/RA/

James Rubenstone, Acting Director
Yucca Mountain Directorate
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