

May 11, 2016

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 published in final form. This document is the "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 May 5, 2016. The document is also available electronically via the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) at Accession No. ML16125A032 and on the NRC's website, at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/nuregs/staff/sr2184/>.

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 the final supplement.

The comment letter you sent to us is available in our ADAMS document management system at Accession Number ML15337A078. Appendix B summarizes all of the comments we received and provides responses to the summarized comments. Your letter is listed in Appendix B, Table B-3 along with the comment letters of other individuals and organizations. As shown in the table, the NRC staff assigned each commenter a separate identification number; the comment identifier for your comments is 060. You can use this identifier to see how the NRC staff responded to each of your comments in Appendix B.

G. Gholson

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If you have any questions, please contact me at 301-415-7231 or Christine Pineda of my staff at 301-415-6789.

Sincerely,

/RA/

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

Docket No. 63-001; NRC-2015-0051
Enclosure: Draft NUREG-2184

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Sincerely,

/RA/

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

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ADAMS Accession Number: ML16138A282 *concurred via email

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