



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

August 16, 2019

Ms. Anne-Marie Fennell, Director  
Natural Resources and Environment  
U.S. Government Accountability Office  
441 G Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20548

Dear Ms. Fennell:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am writing to describe the NRC's planned action in response to a recommendation in the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) report entitled, "Tribal Consultation: Additional Federal Actions Needed for Infrastructure Projects (GAO-19-22)," published on March 20, 2019. Specifically, the GAO recommended that the NRC document in its Tribal consultation policy how NRC officials are to communicate with Tribes about how Tribal input from consultation was considered in agency decisions on infrastructure projects.

The NRC agrees with this recommendation and is addressing it. The NRC staff is developing a new guidance document to complement the agency's Tribal consultation policy that will include information for NRC officials about communicating with federally recognized Tribes about how Tribal input from consultation was considered in agency decisions.

We appreciate the opportunity to describe the NRC's action to address the GAO's recommendation. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Mr. John R. Jolicoeur at 301-415-1642 or via e-mail at [John.Jolicoeur@nrc.gov](mailto:John.Jolicoeur@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

Kristine L. Svinicki

**Identical letter sent to the following recipients, with the exception of the replacement of the point of contact with the Chairman and the Director of the Office of Congressional Affairs:**

Ms. Anne-Marie Fennell, Director  
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The Honorable John A. Barrasso  
Chairman, Committee on Environment and Public Works  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510  
cc: Senator Thomas R. Carper

The Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr.  
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515  
cc: Representative Greg Walden

The Honorable Elijah Cummings  
Chairman, Committee on Oversight and Reform  
United States House of Representatives  
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cc: Representative Jim Jordan

The Honorable Ron Johnson  
Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security and  
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cc: Senator Gary C. Peters