

From: Leona Morgan <leona.morgan.nm@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2021 11:21 PM
To: UNC-ChurchRockEIS Resource
Cc: Dariel Yazzie; Jonathan Nez
Subject: [External_Sender] Docket ID NRC-2019-0026 & NUREG-2243

Dear NRC,

Due to the lack of inclusion of any direct input from the most impacted and local community of the Red Water Pond Road (RWPR) which must live with the permanent contamination from United Nuclear Corporation's (UNC) uranium mining and milling operations, NRC MUST DENY General Electric's request for a license amendment to UNC/GE SUA-1475.

The cleanup plan is insufficient. There are no realistic alternatives that were presented. The plan to move waste across the highway is not cleanup at all, but rather the creation of a permanent radioactive waste dump located in a floodplain, creating the potential for a future uranium disaster not unlike the 1979 Churchrock uranium spill.

The RWPR community and all residents downstream/downwind never gave the United States or UNC their free, informed, and prior consent to do exploratory drilling, mining, or milling. They never gave their free, informed, and prior consent to allow radioactive waste to contaminate their homes, their lands and water, their cultural (aka "religious") resources, and their bodies.

It is imperative that GE and the U.S. agencies, namely the Environmental Protection Agency Region 9, Department of Energy, and NRC, work to address not only the cleanup, but also the human rights violations that were committed by UNC and allowed by the United States.

NRC must work with the RWPR and the Navajo Nation to create a new alternative to move uranium waste OUT of the area entirely, as safely as possible, and not to other, already impacted communities. It is unacceptable and furthering environmental injustice to dump the Potential Threat Waste (PTW) on another overburdened community of color.

NRC must deny the application for a license amendment and seek out a plan for actual cleanup, that will be done to the highest standards, one that would be acceptable in an urban and white community, and includes monitoring of groundwater, air, and soil in perpetuity.

NRC must also hold UNC/GE accountable to address and pay for any ongoing issues and contamination resulting from the July 16, 1979 uranium spill.

Cleanup of the UNC mine and mill needs to be immediate! The U.S. must not delay cleanup or base quality of cleanup on available funds. In order to do full characterization, cleanup, and monitoring of the contamination caused by UNC (both

onsite and offsite), any additional funds needed should be provided by the ultimate responsible party, which is the United States itself.

Do the right thing.

Leona Morgan, Haul No!
Diné Resident of New Mexico

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