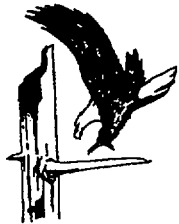


5



The Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians

DOCKETED
USNRC

2605 N. West Bayshore Drive • Suttons Bay, MI 49682 • (616) 271-3538

'00 FEB 16 A10:04

OFFICE OF THE
DIRECTOR
ADJUDICATION STAFF

The Secretary
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Rulemakings and Adjudication's Staff
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

DOCKET NUMBER
PROPOSED RULE **71+73**
(64FR71331)

Dear Ms. Jackson:

The Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians is a Tribal Nation located in six counties in the northwest corner of the Lower Peninsula of the State of Michigan. Our people have lived in this location for centuries and the waters and lands here are very precious to us. We are writing this letter in support of the proposed rules published in the Federal Register on December 21, 1999, Volume 64, Number 244.

The proposed rules would require that Tribes be notified of any shipments of high-level radioactive waste, prior to shipment, across Tribal areas. Like all governments we have a responsibility to protect our water, our land, and the safety of our people. We will use this time period to attempt to prevent and danger to the environment given us by the Creator. We believe that this notification is the right thing to do and support these rules.

We thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on this issue. Your recognition of the sovereign status of Tribes is something we believe should be done at all levels of the federal government.

Sincerely,

George E. Bennett
George E. Bennett
Tribal Chairman

DS10