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March 15, 2000

The Secretary
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

DOCKET NUMBER
PROPOSED RULE **PR 71473**
(64FR71331)

Attention: Rulemakings and Adjudication's Staff

Dear The Secretary:

On December 21, 1999 the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) posted a notice in the Federal Register Volume 64, Number 244, pages 71331-71333) requesting comments on the NRC's intent on to amend its regulations to require licenses to notify Indian tribes in advance of certain shipments of high level radioactive waste, including spent fuel.

The Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, located on the Lac du Flambeau Indian Reservation, Northern Wisconsin, fully supports this proposal which would require advance notification to Indian tribes that high-level nuclear waste or spent fuel shipments would be going through their reservations or territory. Currently, our Tribe is revising codes and has approved codes that will not allow any such wastes to be transported through our reservation. These codes are to ensure and protect resources, such as our abundant water resources, for current and future generations, we will take any means necessary to eliminate any potential threat to these resources and Anishanabe (our people).

Therefor we commend your efforts to move forward on this important issue and hope you keep in mind that many Tribes have regulations that do not allow such activities. In addition, not only does this requirement help us protect our people and lands, but also recognizes tribal sovereignty.

Respectfully,

Mr. Tom Maulson, Tribal Chairman
Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

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