



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

December 19, 2019

Ms. Shelley Buck, President  
Prairie Island Indian Community  
5636 Sturgeon Lake Road  
Welch, MN 55089

SUBJECT: SECTION 106 CONSULTATION OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT REGARDING THE PROPOSED LICENSE AMENDMENT FOR THE PRAIRIE ISLAND INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-10)

Dear President Buck:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) received, by letter dated July 26, 2019, an application from the Northern States Power Company (NSPM) to amend Materials License Number SNM-2506 for the Prairie Island Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (PI ISFSI). The PI ISFSI is located within the site boundary of the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant (PINGP) in Goodhue County, Minnesota, approximately 28 miles southeast of the Minneapolis-St Paul metropolitan area (figure enclosed). The NSPM is requesting to amend its license to increase the maximum amount of spent fuel that may be possessed and stored at the PI ISFSI, as well as approval of the design of an additional concrete pad to be built within the confines of the existing facility. The licensee has stated that the new pad will utilize a design consistent with the existing pads and that installation of this new pad will result in ground disturbing activities to be performed within the existing ISFSI fencing.

The SNM-2506 currently allows NSPM to store up to 48 TN-40 and TN-40HT casks of spent fuel. The NSPM license amendment requests approval to store up to an additional 16 casks, for a total of 64 casks. The NSPM has a Certificate of Need from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission for the expansion of the ISFSI to accommodate a total of 64 casks. Current PI ISFSI operations include storage and periodic transfer of filled casks to the ISFSI pad and routine inspections and monitoring of the ISFSI site; these activities are expected to continue.

As established in Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 51, the NRC regulation that implements the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA), the NRC staff is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for this proposed action, the requested amendment to the PI ISFSI license. The purpose of the EA is to assess potential environmental impacts that may significantly affect the human environment. In accordance with 36 CFR §800.8 (Coordination with the National Environmental Policy Act), the NRC staff is coordinating compliance of the Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, with its NEPA review process. The EA will include an analysis of potential impacts to historic and cultural resources. In support of the environmental review, the NRC staff is requesting your concurrence on NRC's determination that the proposed PI ISFSI expansion does not have the potential to cause effects to historic properties, assuming they were present. This determination is based on the following information.

In 2015, the NRC renewed the NSPM license to receive, possess, store, and transfer PINGP spent fuel in the PI ISFSI for an additional 40-year period. As part of the review, the NRC staff analyzed the potential environmental impacts associated with construction activities for potential future expansion of the ISFSI's capacity. This analysis included review of input from the Prairie Island Indian Community, original construction photographs, results of light detection and ranging remote sensing, and participation in a Phase I archeological survey conducted in September 2014. The NRC staff's assessment was documented in Section 4.14, of the "Cumulative Impacts" Section of the EA, dated June 2015 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession Number ML15098A026). The assessment found that the proposed expansion would not impact any areas beyond that evaluated in the 1992 licensing EA and would not result in an impact to any historic, archaeological or cultural resources. Additionally, NSPM committed to follow their Cultural Resources Management Plan, which states that if the ISFSI expansion is determined to have the potential to disturb previously undisturbed soils that could contain archaeological resources, then subsurface testing may be required to determine the significance of resources that may be present. In the 2015 license renewal EA, the NRC staff stated that, "The Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office determined that no properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places will be affected by [the ISFSI license renewal] project." Based on the project's scope and information from previous cultural resources and geotechnical surveys, the licensee has stated that the activities associated with this license amendment would not affect any historic and archaeological resources.

The NSPM PI ISFSI amendment request is publicly available in the NRC Public Document Room located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852, or from the NRC's ADAMS. The ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room is accessible at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

The accession number for the application package is ML19217A311. For your reference, this package includes correspondence that was sent to Ms. Heather Westra on February 1, 2019, from Mr. Scott Sharp, Site Vice President at PINGP, SUBJECT: "PINGP ISFSI Expansion Request for Information Regarding Potentially Affected Resources," as well as the response letter that was sent from Jessie Seim, General Counsel for the Prairie Island Indian Community on March 6, 2019.

Please provide your concurrence or submit any comments and/or information you may have regarding this environmental review within 30 days of receipt of this letter to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Ms. Cinthya I. Román, Chief, 11555 Rockville Pike, Mail Stop: T-4B72, Rockville, Maryland 20852. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Jean Trefethen of my staff by telephone at 301-415-0867 or via email at [Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov](mailto:Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov).

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

John R. Tappert, Director  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
and Financial Support  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-10  
License No. SNM-2506

Enclosure:  
5 Mile Radius Around  
the Prairie Island ISFSI

cc w/encl.:  
Ms. Jessie Seim, General Counsel  
Mr. Gabe Miller, Environmental  
Program Manager  
Ms. Heather Westra  
Mr. Noah White, THPO



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

December 19, 2019

Mr. Robert Flying Hawk, Chairman  
Yankton Sioux Tribe  
P.O. Box 1153  
Wagner, SD 57380

SUBJECT: SECTION 106 CONSULTATION OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT REGARDING THE PROPOSED LICENSE AMENDMENT FOR THE PRAIRIE ISLAND INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-10)

Dear Chairman Flying Hawk:

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Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

John R. Tappert, Director  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
and Financial Support  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-10  
License No. SNM-2506

Enclosure:  
5 Mile Radius Around  
the Prairie Island ISFSI

cc w/encl.:  
Mr. Kip Spotted Eagle, THPO Director



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

December 19, 2019

Mr. Coly Brown, Chairman  
Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska  
100 Bluff Street  
Winnebago, NE 68071

SUBJECT: SECTION 106 CONSULTATION OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT REGARDING THE PROPOSED LICENSE AMENDMENT FOR THE PRAIRIE ISLAND INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-10)

Dear Chairman Brown:

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Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
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Docket No. 72-10  
License No. SNM-2506

Enclosure:  
5 Mile Radius Around  
the Prairie Island ISFSI

cc w/encl.:  
THPO Office



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

December 19, 2019

Mr. Michael Fairbanks, Chairman  
White Earth Tribal HQ  
35500 Eagle View Rd  
Ogema, MN 56569

SUBJECT: SECTION 106 CONSULTATION OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT REGARDING THE PROPOSED LICENSE AMENDMENT FOR THE PRAIRIE ISLAND INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-10)

Dear Chairman Fairbanks:

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Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

John R. Tappert, Director  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
and Financial Support  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-10  
License No. SNM-2506

Enclosure:  
5 Mile Radius Around  
the Prairie Island ISFSI

cc w/encl.:  
Jaime Arsenault, THPO  
White Earth Nation  
P.O. Box 418  
White Earth, MN 56591



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

December 19, 2019

Mr. Kevin Jensvold, Tribal Chairman  
Upper Sioux Community  
5722 Travers Lane  
P.O. Box 147  
Granite Falls, MN 56241

SUBJECT: SECTION 106 CONSULTATION OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT REGARDING THE PROPOSED LICENSE AMENDMENT FOR THE PRAIRIE ISLAND INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-10)

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Docket No. 72-10  
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Enclosure:  
5 Mile Radius Around  
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Ms. Samantha Odegard, THPO



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

December 19, 2019

Mr. Jamie Azure, Chairman  
Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa  
4180 Highway 281  
Belcourt, ND 58316

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As established in Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 51, the NRC regulation that implements the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA), the NRC staff is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for this proposed action, the requested amendment to the PI ISFSI license. The purpose of the EA is to assess potential environmental impacts that may significantly affect the human environment. In accordance with 36 CFR §800.8 (Coordination with the National Environmental Policy Act), the NRC staff is coordinating compliance of the Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, with its NEPA review process. The EA will include an analysis of potential impacts to historic and cultural resources. In support of the environmental review, the NRC staff is requesting your concurrence on NRC's determination that the proposed PI ISFSI expansion does not have the potential to cause effects to historic properties, assuming they were present. This determination is based on the following information.



In 2015, the NRC renewed the NSPM license to receive, possess, store, and transfer PINGP spent fuel in the PI ISFSI for an additional 40-year period. As part of the review, the NRC staff analyzed the potential environmental impacts associated with construction activities for potential future expansion of the ISFSI's capacity. This analysis included review of input from the Prairie Island Indian Community, original construction photographs, results of light detection and ranging remote sensing, and participation in a Phase I archeological survey conducted in September 2014. The NRC staff's assessment was documented in Section 4.14, of the "Cumulative Impacts" Section of the EA, dated June 2015 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession Number ML15098A026). The assessment found that the proposed expansion would not impact any areas beyond that evaluated in the 1992 licensing EA and would not result in an impact to any historic, archaeological or cultural resources. Additionally, NSPM committed to follow their Cultural Resources Management Plan, which states that if the ISFSI expansion is determined to have the potential to disturb previously undisturbed soils that could contain archaeological resources, then subsurface testing may be required to determine the significance of resources that may be present. In the 2015 license renewal EA, the NRC staff stated that, "The Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office determined that no properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places will be affected by [the ISFSI license renewal] project." Based on the project's scope and information from previous cultural resources and geotechnical surveys, the licensee has stated that the activities associated with this license amendment would not affect any historic and archaeological resources.

The NSPM PI ISFSI amendment request is publicly available in the NRC Public Document Room located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852, or from the NRC's ADAMS. The ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room is accessible at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

The accession number for the application package is ML19217A311. For your reference, this package includes correspondence that was sent to Ms. Heather Westra on February 1, 2019, from Mr. Scott Sharp, Site Vice President at PINGP, SUBJECT: "PINGP ISFSI Expansion Request for Information Regarding Potentially Affected Resources," as well as the response letter that was sent from Jessie Seim, General Counsel for the Prairie Island Indian Community on March 6, 2019.

Please provide your concurrence or submit any comments and/or information you may have regarding this environmental review within 30 days of receipt of this letter to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Ms. Cinthya I. Román, Chief, 11555 Rockville Pike, Mail Stop: T-4B72, Rockville, Maryland 20852. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Jean Trefethen of my staff by telephone at 301-415-0867 or via email at [Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov](mailto:Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov).

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

John R. Tappert, Director  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
and Financial Support  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-10  
License No. SNM-2506

Enclosure:  
5 Mile Radius Around  
the Prairie Island ISFSI

cc w/encl.:  
Ms. Elaine Nadeau, THPO  
Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa  
P.O. Box 900  
Belcourt, ND 58316



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

December 19, 2019

Mr. Mark Fox, Chairman  
Mandan, Hidatsa & Arikara Nation  
404 Frontage Road  
New Town, ND 58763

SUBJECT: SECTION 106 CONSULTATION OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT REGARDING THE PROPOSED LICENSE AMENDMENT FOR THE PRAIRIE ISLAND INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-10)

Dear Chairman Fox:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) received, by letter dated July 26, 2019, an application from the Northern States Power Company (NSPM) to amend Materials License Number SNM-2506 for the Prairie Island Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (PI ISFSI). The PI ISFSI is located within the site boundary of the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant (PINGP) in Goodhue County, Minnesota, approximately 28 miles southeast of the Minneapolis-St Paul metropolitan area (figure enclosed). The NSPM is requesting to amend its license to increase the maximum amount of spent fuel that may be possessed and stored at the PI ISFSI, as well as approval of the design of an additional concrete pad to be built within the confines of the existing facility. The licensee has stated that the new pad will utilize a design consistent with the existing pads and that installation of this new pad will result in ground disturbing activities to be performed within the existing ISFSI fencing.

The SNM-2506 currently allows NSPM to store up to 48 TN-40 and TN-40HT casks of spent fuel. The NSPM license amendment requests approval to store up to an additional 16 casks, for a total of 64 casks. The NSPM has a Certificate of Need from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission for the expansion of the ISFSI to accommodate a total of 64 casks. Current PI ISFSI operations include storage and periodic transfer of filled casks to the ISFSI pad and routine inspections and monitoring of the ISFSI site; these activities are expected to continue.

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In 2015, the NRC renewed the NSPM license to receive, possess, store, and transfer PINGP spent fuel in the PI ISFSI for an additional 40-year period. As part of the review, the NRC staff analyzed the potential environmental impacts associated with construction activities for potential future expansion of the ISFSI's capacity. This analysis included review of input from the Prairie Island Indian Community, original construction photographs, results of light detection and ranging remote sensing, and participation in a Phase I archeological survey conducted in September 2014. The NRC staff's assessment was documented in Section 4.14, of the "Cumulative Impacts" Section of the EA, dated June 2015 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession Number ML15098A026). The assessment found that the proposed expansion would not impact any areas beyond that evaluated in the 1992 licensing EA and would not result in an impact to any historic, archaeological or cultural resources. Additionally, NSPM committed to follow their Cultural Resources Management Plan, which states that if the ISFSI expansion is determined to have the potential to disturb previously undisturbed soils that could contain archaeological resources, then subsurface testing may be required to determine the significance of resources that may be present. In the 2015 license renewal EA, the NRC staff stated that, "The Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office determined that no properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places will be affected by [the ISFSI license renewal] project." Based on the project's scope and information from previous cultural resources and geotechnical surveys, the licensee has stated that the activities associated with this license amendment would not affect any historic and archaeological resources.

The NSPM PI ISFSI amendment request is publicly available in the NRC Public Document Room located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852, or from the NRC's ADAMS. The ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room is accessible at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

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Please provide your concurrence or submit any comments and/or information you may have regarding this environmental review within 30 days of receipt of this letter to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Ms. Cinthya I. Román, Chief, 11555 Rockville Pike, Mail Stop: T-4B72, Rockville, Maryland 20852. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Jean Trefethen of my staff by telephone at 301-415-0867 or via email at [Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov](mailto:Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov).

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

John R. Tappert, Director  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
and Financial Support  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-10  
License No. SNM-2506

Enclosure:  
5 Mile Radius Around  
the Prairie Island ISFSI

cc w/encl.:  
Mr. Pete Coffey, THPO



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

December 19, 2019

Mr. Lewis Taylor, Chairman  
St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin  
24663 Angeline Ave.  
Webster, WI 54893

SUBJECT: SECTION 106 CONSULTATION OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT REGARDING THE PROPOSED LICENSE AMENDMENT FOR THE PRAIRIE ISLAND INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-10)

Dear Chairman Taylor:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) received, by letter dated July 26, 2019, an application from the Northern States Power Company (NSPM) to amend Materials License Number SNM-2506 for the Prairie Island Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (PI ISFSI). The PI ISFSI is located within the site boundary of the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant (PINGP) in Goodhue County, Minnesota, approximately 28 miles southeast of the Minneapolis-St Paul metropolitan area (figure enclosed). The NSPM is requesting to amend its license to increase the maximum amount of spent fuel that may be possessed and stored at the PI ISFSI, as well as approval of the design of an additional concrete pad to be built within the confines of the existing facility. The licensee has stated that the new pad will utilize a design consistent with the existing pads and that installation of this new pad will result in ground disturbing activities to be performed within the existing ISFSI fencing.

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In 2015, the NRC renewed the NSPM license to receive, possess, store, and transfer PINGP spent fuel in the PI ISFSI for an additional 40-year period. As part of the review, the NRC staff analyzed the potential environmental impacts associated with construction activities for potential future expansion of the ISFSI's capacity. This analysis included review of input from the Prairie Island Indian Community, original construction photographs, results of light detection and ranging remote sensing, and participation in a Phase I archeological survey conducted in September 2014. The NRC staff's assessment was documented in Section 4.14, of the "Cumulative Impacts" Section of the EA, dated June 2015 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession Number ML15098A026). The assessment found that the proposed expansion would not impact any areas beyond that evaluated in the 1992 licensing EA and would not result in an impact to any historic, archaeological or cultural resources. Additionally, NSPM committed to follow their Cultural Resources Management Plan, which states that if the ISFSI expansion is determined to have the potential to disturb previously undisturbed soils that could contain archaeological resources, then subsurface testing may be required to determine the significance of resources that may be present. In the 2015 license renewal EA, the NRC staff stated that, "The Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office determined that no properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places will be affected by [the ISFSI license renewal] project." Based on the project's scope and information from previous cultural resources and geotechnical surveys, the licensee has stated that the activities associated with this license amendment would not affect any historic and archaeological resources.

The NSPM PI ISFSI amendment request is publicly available in the NRC Public Document Room located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852, or from the NRC's ADAMS. The ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room is accessible at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

The accession number for the application package is ML19217A311. For your reference, this package includes correspondence that was sent to Ms. Heather Westra on February 1, 2019, from Mr. Scott Sharp, Site Vice President at PINGP, SUBJECT: "PINGP ISFSI Expansion Request for Information Regarding Potentially Affected Resources," as well as the response letter that was sent from Jessie Seim, General Counsel for the Prairie Island Indian Community on March 6, 2019.

Please provide your concurrence or submit any comments and/or information you may have regarding this environmental review within 30 days of receipt of this letter to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Ms. Cinthya I. Román, Chief, 11555 Rockville Pike, Mail Stop: T-4B72, Rockville, Maryland 20852. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Jean Trefethen of my staff by telephone at 301-415-0867 or via email at [Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov](mailto:Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov).

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

John R. Tappert, Director  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
and Financial Support  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-10  
License No. SNM-2506

Enclosure:  
5 Mile Radius Around  
the Prairie Island ISFSI

cc w/encl.:  
Ms. Wanda McFaggen, THPO





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

December 19, 2019

Mr. Mike Faith, Jr., Chairman  
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe  
P.O. Box D, Building #1  
North Standing Rock Ave.  
Fort Yates, ND 58538

SUBJECT: SECTION 106 CONSULTATION OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT REGARDING THE PROPOSED LICENSE AMENDMENT FOR THE PRAIRIE ISLAND INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-10)

Dear Chairman Faith:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) received, by letter dated July 26, 2019, an application from the Northern States Power Company (NSPM) to amend Materials License Number SNM-2506 for the Prairie Island Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (PI ISFSI). The PI ISFSI is located within the site boundary of the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant (PINGP) in Goodhue County, Minnesota, approximately 28 miles southeast of the Minneapolis-St Paul metropolitan area (figure enclosed). The NSPM is requesting to amend its license to increase the maximum amount of spent fuel that may be possessed and stored at the PI ISFSI, as well as approval of the design of an additional concrete pad to be built within the confines of the existing facility. The licensee has stated that the new pad will utilize a design consistent with the existing pads and that installation of this new pad will result in ground disturbing activities to be performed within the existing ISFSI fencing.

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The NSPM PI ISFSI amendment request is publicly available in the NRC Public Document Room located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852, or from the NRC's ADAMS. The ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room is accessible at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

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Please provide your concurrence or submit any comments and/or information you may have regarding this environmental review within 30 days of receipt of this letter to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Ms. Cinthya I. Román, Chief, 11555 Rockville Pike, Mail Stop: T-4B72, Rockville, Maryland 20852. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Jean Trefethen of my staff by telephone at 301-415-0867 or via email at [Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov](mailto:Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov).

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

John R. Tappert, Director  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
and Financial Support  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-10  
License No. SNM-2506

Enclosure:  
5 Mile Radius Around  
the Prairie Island ISFSI

cc w/encl.:  
Mr. Jon Eagle, THPO



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

December 19, 2019

Ms. Peggy Cavanaugh, Chairperson  
Spirit Lake Tribe of Fort Totten  
P.O. Box 359  
Fort Totten, ND 58335

SUBJECT: SECTION 106 CONSULTATION OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT REGARDING THE PROPOSED LICENSE AMENDMENT FOR THE PRAIRIE ISLAND INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-10)

Dear Chairperson Cavanaugh:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) received, by letter dated July 26, 2019, an application from the Northern States Power Company (NSPM) to amend Materials License Number SNM-2506 for the Prairie Island Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (PI ISFSI). The PI ISFSI is located within the site boundary of the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant (PINGP) in Goodhue County, Minnesota, approximately 28 miles southeast of the Minneapolis-St Paul metropolitan area (figure enclosed). The NSPM is requesting to amend its license to increase the maximum amount of spent fuel that may be possessed and stored at the PI ISFSI, as well as approval of the design of an additional concrete pad to be built within the confines of the existing facility. The licensee has stated that the new pad will utilize a design consistent with the existing pads and that installation of this new pad will result in ground disturbing activities to be performed within the existing ISFSI fencing.

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Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

John R. Tappert, Director  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
and Financial Support  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-10  
License No. SNM-2506

Enclosure:  
5 Mile Radius Around  
the Prairie Island ISFSI

cc w/encl.:  
Dr. Erich Longie, THPO  
Spirit Lake Tribe of Fort Totten  
P.O. Box 76  
Fort Totten, ND 58335



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

December 19, 2019

Mr. Donovan White, Chairman  
Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate  
P.O. Box 509  
12554 BIA HWY 711  
Agency Village, SD 57262-0509

SUBJECT: SECTION 106 CONSULTATION OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT REGARDING THE PROPOSED LICENSE AMENDMENT FOR THE PRAIRIE ISLAND INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-10)

Dear Chairman White:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) received, by letter dated July 26, 2019, an application from the Northern States Power Company (NSPM) to amend Materials License Number SNM-2506 for the Prairie Island Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (PI ISFSI). The PI ISFSI is located within the site boundary of the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant (PINGP) in Goodhue County, Minnesota, approximately 28 miles southeast of the Minneapolis-St Paul metropolitan area (figure enclosed). The NSPM is requesting to amend its license to increase the maximum amount of spent fuel that may be possessed and stored at the PI ISFSI, as well as approval of the design of an additional concrete pad to be built within the confines of the existing facility. The licensee has stated that the new pad will utilize a design consistent with the existing pads and that installation of this new pad will result in ground disturbing activities to be performed within the existing ISFSI fencing.

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In 2015, the NRC renewed the NSPM license to receive, possess, store, and transfer PINGP spent fuel in the PI ISFSI for an additional 40-year period. As part of the review, the NRC staff analyzed the potential environmental impacts associated with construction activities for potential future expansion of the ISFSI's capacity. This analysis included review of input from the Prairie Island Indian Community, original construction photographs, results of light detection and ranging remote sensing, and participation in a Phase I archeological survey conducted in September 2014. The NRC staff's assessment was documented in Section 4.14, of the "Cumulative Impacts" Section of the EA, dated June 2015 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession Number ML15098A026). The assessment found that the proposed expansion would not impact any areas beyond that evaluated in the 1992 licensing EA and would not result in an impact to any historic, archaeological or cultural resources. Additionally, NSPM committed to follow their Cultural Resources Management Plan, which states that if the ISFSI expansion is determined to have the potential to disturb previously undisturbed soils that could contain archaeological resources, then subsurface testing may be required to determine the significance of resources that may be present. In the 2015 license renewal EA, the NRC staff stated that, "The Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office determined that no properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places will be affected by [the ISFSI license renewal] project." Based on the project's scope and information from previous cultural resources and geotechnical surveys, the licensee has stated that the activities associated with this license amendment would not affect any historic and archaeological resources.

The NSPM PI ISFSI amendment request is publicly available in the NRC Public Document Room located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852, or from the NRC's ADAMS. The ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room is accessible at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

The accession number for the application package is ML19217A311. For your reference, this package includes correspondence that was sent to Ms. Heather Westra on February 1, 2019, from Mr. Scott Sharp, Site Vice President at PINGP, SUBJECT: "PINGP ISFSI Expansion Request for Information Regarding Potentially Affected Resources," as well as the response letter that was sent from Jessie Seim, General Counsel for the Prairie Island Indian Community on March 6, 2019.



Please provide your concurrence or submit any comments and/or information you may have regarding this environmental review within 30 days of receipt of this letter to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Ms. Cinthya I. Román, Chief, 11555 Rockville Pike, Mail Stop: T-4B72, Rockville, Maryland 20852. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Jean Trefethen of my staff by telephone at 301-415-0867 or via email at [Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov](mailto:Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov).

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

John R. Tappert, Director  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
and Financial Support  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-10  
License No. SNM-2506

Enclosure:  
5 Mile Radius Around  
the Prairie Island ISFSI

cc w/encl.:  
Ms. Dianne Desrosiers, THPO  
Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate  
P.O. Box 907  
Sisseton, SD 57262-0907



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

December 19, 2019

Mr. Roger Trudell, Chairman  
Santee Sioux Tribe of Nebraska  
425 Frazier Ave N. Suite 2  
Niobrara, NE 68760

SUBJECT: SECTION 106 CONSULTATION OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT REGARDING THE PROPOSED LICENSE AMENDMENT FOR THE PRAIRIE ISLAND INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-10)

Dear Chairman Trudell:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) received, by letter dated July 26, 2019, an application from the Northern States Power Company (NSPM) to amend Materials License Number SNM-2506 for the Prairie Island Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (PI ISFSI). The PI ISFSI is located within the site boundary of the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant (PINGP) in Goodhue County, Minnesota, approximately 28 miles southeast of the Minneapolis-St Paul metropolitan area (figure enclosed). The NSPM is requesting to amend its license to increase the maximum amount of spent fuel that may be possessed and stored at the PI ISFSI, as well as approval of the design of an additional concrete pad to be built within the confines of the existing facility. The licensee has stated that the new pad will utilize a design consistent with the existing pads and that installation of this new pad will result in ground disturbing activities to be performed within the existing ISFSI fencing.

The SNM-2506 currently allows NSPM to store up to 48 TN-40 and TN-40HT casks of spent fuel. The NSPM license amendment requests approval to store up to an additional 16 casks, for a total of 64 casks. The NSPM has a Certificate of Need from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission for the expansion of the ISFSI to accommodate a total of 64 casks. Current PI ISFSI operations include storage and periodic transfer of filled casks to the ISFSI pad and routine inspections and monitoring of the ISFSI site; these activities are expected to continue.

As established in Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 51, the NRC regulation that implements the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA), the NRC staff is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for this proposed action, the requested amendment to the PI ISFSI license. The purpose of the EA is to assess potential environmental impacts that may significantly affect the human environment. In accordance with 36 CFR §800.8 (Coordination with the National Environmental Policy Act), the NRC staff is coordinating compliance of the Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, with its NEPA review process. The EA will include an analysis of potential impacts to historic and cultural resources. In support of the environmental review, the NRC staff is requesting your concurrence on NRC's determination that the proposed PI ISFSI expansion does not have the potential to cause effects to historic properties, assuming they were present. This determination is based on the following information.

In 2015, the NRC renewed the NSPM license to receive, possess, store, and transfer PINGP spent fuel in the PI ISFSI for an additional 40-year period. As part of the review, the NRC staff analyzed the potential environmental impacts associated with construction activities for potential future expansion of the ISFSI's capacity. This analysis included review of input from the Prairie Island Indian Community, original construction photographs, results of light detection and ranging remote sensing, and participation in a Phase I archeological survey conducted in September 2014. The NRC staff's assessment was documented in Section 4.14, of the "Cumulative Impacts" Section of the EA, dated June 2015 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession Number ML15098A026). The assessment found that the proposed expansion would not impact any areas beyond that evaluated in the 1992 licensing EA and would not result in an impact to any historic, archaeological or cultural resources. Additionally, NSPM committed to follow their Cultural Resources Management Plan, which states that if the ISFSI expansion is determined to have the potential to disturb previously undisturbed soils that could contain archaeological resources, then subsurface testing may be required to determine the significance of resources that may be present. In the 2015 license renewal EA, the NRC staff stated that, "The Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office determined that no properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places will be affected by [the ISFSI license renewal] project." Based on the project's scope and information from previous cultural resources and geotechnical surveys, the licensee has stated that the activities associated with this license amendment would not affect any historic and archaeological resources.

The NSPM PI ISFSI amendment request is publicly available in the NRC Public Document Room located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852, or from the NRC's ADAMS. The ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room is accessible at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

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Please provide your concurrence or submit any comments and/or information you may have regarding this environmental review within 30 days of receipt of this letter to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Ms. Cinthya I. Román, Chief, 11555 Rockville Pike, Mail Stop: T-4B72, Rockville, Maryland 20852. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Jean Trefethen of my staff by telephone at 301-415-0867 or via email at [Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov](mailto:Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov).

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

John R. Tappert, Director  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
and Financial Support  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-10  
License No. SNM-2506

Enclosure:  
5 Mile Radius Around  
the Prairie Island ISFSI

cc w/encl.:  
Mr. Duane Whipple, THPO



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

December 19, 2019

Mr. Rodney M. Bordeaux, President  
Rosebud Sioux Tribe  
PO Box 430  
Rosebud, SD 57570-0430

SUBJECT: SECTION 106 CONSULTATION OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT REGARDING THE PROPOSED LICENSE AMENDMENT FOR THE PRAIRIE ISLAND INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-10)

Dear President Bordeaux:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) received, by letter dated July 26, 2019, an application from the Northern States Power Company (NSPM) to amend Materials License Number SNM-2506 for the Prairie Island Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (PI ISFSI). The PI ISFSI is located within the site boundary of the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant (PINGP) in Goodhue County, Minnesota, approximately 28 miles southeast of the Minneapolis-St Paul metropolitan area (figure enclosed). The NSPM is requesting to amend its license to increase the maximum amount of spent fuel that may be possessed and stored at the PI ISFSI, as well as approval of the design of an additional concrete pad to be built within the confines of the existing facility. The licensee has stated that the new pad will utilize a design consistent with the existing pads and that installation of this new pad will result in ground disturbing activities to be performed within the existing ISFSI fencing.

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Please provide your concurrence or submit any comments and/or information you may have regarding this environmental review within 30 days of receipt of this letter to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Ms. Cinthya I. Román, Chief, 11555 Rockville Pike, Mail Stop: T-4B72, Rockville, Maryland 20852. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Jean Trefethen of my staff by telephone at 301-415-0867 or via email at [Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov](mailto:Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov).

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

John R. Tappert, Director  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
and Financial Support  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-10  
License No. SNM-2506

Enclosure:  
5 Mile Radius Around  
the Prairie Island ISFSI

cc w/encl.:  
Mr. Ben Rhodd, THPO  
Rosebud Sioux Tribe  
P.O. Box 809  
Rosebud, SD 57570



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

December 19, 2019

Mr. Charles Vig, Chair  
Shakopee Mdewakandon Sioux  
2330 Sioux Trail NW  
Prior Lake, MN 55372

SUBJECT: SECTION 106 CONSULTATION OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT REGARDING THE PROPOSED LICENSE AMENDMENT FOR THE PRAIRIE ISLAND INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-10)

Dear Chair Vig:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) received, by letter dated July 26, 2019, an application from the Northern States Power Company (NSPM) to amend Materials License Number SNM-2506 for the Prairie Island Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (PI ISFSI). The PI ISFSI is located within the site boundary of the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant (PINGP) in Goodhue County, Minnesota, approximately 28 miles southeast of the Minneapolis-St Paul metropolitan area (figure enclosed). The NSPM is requesting to amend its license to increase the maximum amount of spent fuel that may be possessed and stored at the PI ISFSI, as well as approval of the design of an additional concrete pad to be built within the confines of the existing facility. The licensee has stated that the new pad will utilize a design consistent with the existing pads and that installation of this new pad will result in ground disturbing activities to be performed within the existing ISFSI fencing.

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Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

John R. Tappert, Director  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
and Financial Support  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-10  
License No. SNM-2506

Enclosure:  
5 Mile Radius Around  
the Prairie Island ISFSI



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

December 19, 2019

Ms. Cathy Chavers, Tribal Chairwoman  
Boise Forte Tribal Government – Nett Lake  
5344 Lakeshore Dr  
Nett Lake, MN 55772

SUBJECT: SECTION 106 CONSULTATION OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT REGARDING THE PROPOSED LICENSE AMENDMENT FOR THE PRAIRIE ISLAND INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-10)

Dear Tribal Chairwoman Chavers:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) received, by letter dated July 26, 2019, an application from the Northern States Power Company (NSPM) to amend Materials License Number SNM-2506 for the Prairie Island Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (PI ISFSI). The PI ISFSI is located within the site boundary of the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant (PINGP) in Goodhue County, Minnesota, approximately 28 miles southeast of the Minneapolis-St Paul metropolitan area (figure enclosed). The NSPM is requesting to amend its license to increase the maximum amount of spent fuel that may be possessed and stored at the PI ISFSI, as well as approval of the design of an additional concrete pad to be built within the confines of the existing facility. The licensee has stated that the new pad will utilize a design consistent with the existing pads and that installation of this new pad will result in ground disturbing activities to be performed within the existing ISFSI fencing.

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Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

John R. Tappert, Director  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
and Financial Support  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-10  
License No. SNM-2506

Enclosure:  
5 Mile Radius Around  
the Prairie Island ISFSI

cc w/encl.:  
Ms. Bev Miller, THPO  
Bois Forte Band of Chippewa Indians  
5344 Lakeshore Dr  
P.O. Box 16  
Nett Lake, MN 55772



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

December 19, 2019

Mr. Harold Frazier, Chair  
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe  
P.O. Box 590  
Eagle Butte, SD 57625-0590

SUBJECT: SECTION 106 CONSULTATION OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT REGARDING THE PROPOSED LICENSE AMENDMENT FOR THE PRAIRIE ISLAND INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-10)

Dear Chair Frazier:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) received, by letter dated July 26, 2019, an application from the Northern States Power Company (NSPM) to amend Materials License Number SNM-2506 for the Prairie Island Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (PI ISFSI). The PI ISFSI is located within the site boundary of the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant (PINGP) in Goodhue County, Minnesota, approximately 28 miles southeast of the Minneapolis-St Paul metropolitan area (figure enclosed). The NSPM is requesting to amend its license to increase the maximum amount of spent fuel that may be possessed and stored at the PI ISFSI, as well as approval of the design of an additional concrete pad to be built within the confines of the existing facility. The licensee has stated that the new pad will utilize a design consistent with the existing pads and that installation of this new pad will result in ground disturbing activities to be performed within the existing ISFSI fencing.

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In 2015, the NRC renewed the NSPM license to receive, possess, store, and transfer PINGP spent fuel in the PI ISFSI for an additional 40-year period. As part of the review, the NRC staff analyzed the potential environmental impacts associated with construction activities for potential future expansion of the ISFSI's capacity. This analysis included review of input from the Prairie Island Indian Community, original construction photographs, results of light detection and ranging remote sensing, and participation in a Phase I archeological survey conducted in September 2014. The NRC staff's assessment was documented in Section 4.14, of the "Cumulative Impacts" Section of the EA, dated June 2015 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession Number ML15098A026). The assessment found that the proposed expansion would not impact any areas beyond that evaluated in the 1992 licensing EA and would not result in an impact to any historic, archaeological or cultural resources. Additionally, NSPM committed to follow their Cultural Resources Management Plan, which states that if the ISFSI expansion is determined to have the potential to disturb previously undisturbed soils that could contain archaeological resources, then subsurface testing may be required to determine the significance of resources that may be present. In the 2015 license renewal EA, the NRC staff stated that, "The Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office determined that no properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places will be affected by [the ISFSI license renewal] project." Based on the project's scope and information from previous cultural resources and geotechnical surveys, the licensee has stated that the activities associated with this license amendment would not affect any historic and archaeological resources.

The NSPM PI ISFSI amendment request is publicly available in the NRC Public Document Room located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852, or from the NRC's ADAMS. The ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room is accessible at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

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Please provide your concurrence or submit any comments and/or information you may have regarding this environmental review within 30 days of receipt of this letter to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Ms. Cinthya I. Román, Chief, 11555 Rockville Pike, Mail Stop: T-4B72, Rockville, Maryland 20852. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Jean Trefethen of my staff by telephone at 301-415-0867 or via email at [Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov](mailto:Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov).

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

John R. Tappert, Director  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
and Financial Support  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-10  
License No. SNM-2506

Enclosure:  
5 Mile Radius Around  
the Prairie Island ISFSI

cc w/encl.:  
Mr. Steve Vance, THPO





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

December 19, 2019

Mr. Lester Thompson Jr., Chair  
Crow Creek Sioux Tribe  
P.O. Box 50  
Ft. Thompson, SD 57339-0050

SUBJECT: SECTION 106 CONSULTATION OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT REGARDING THE PROPOSED LICENSE AMENDMENT FOR THE PRAIRIE ISLAND INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-10)

Dear Chair Thompson :

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) received, by letter dated July 26, 2019, an application from the Northern States Power Company (NSPM) to amend Materials License Number SNM-2506 for the Prairie Island Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (PI ISFSI). The PI ISFSI is located within the site boundary of the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant (PINGP) in Goodhue County, Minnesota, approximately 28 miles southeast of the Minneapolis-St Paul metropolitan area (figure enclosed). The NSPM is requesting to amend its license to increase the maximum amount of spent fuel that may be possessed and stored at the PI ISFSI, as well as approval of the design of an additional concrete pad to be built within the confines of the existing facility. The licensee has stated that the new pad will utilize a design consistent with the existing pads and that installation of this new pad will result in ground disturbing activities to be performed within the existing ISFSI fencing.

The SNM-2506 currently allows NSPM to store up to 48 TN-40 and TN-40HT casks of spent fuel. The NSPM license amendment requests approval to store up to an additional 16 casks, for a total of 64 casks. The NSPM has a Certificate of Need from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission for the expansion of the ISFSI to accommodate a total of 64 casks. Current PI ISFSI operations include storage and periodic transfer of filled casks to the ISFSI pad and routine inspections and monitoring of the ISFSI site; these activities are expected to continue.

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The NSPM PI ISFSI amendment request is publicly available in the NRC Public Document Room located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852, or from the NRC's ADAMS. The ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room is accessible at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

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Please provide your concurrence or submit any comments and/or information you may have regarding this environmental review within 30 days of receipt of this letter to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Ms. Cinthya I. Román, Chief, 11555 Rockville Pike, Mail Stop: T-4B72, Rockville, Maryland 20852. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Jean Trefethen of my staff by telephone at 301-415-0867 or via email at [Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov](mailto:Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov).

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

John R. Tappert, Director  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
and Financial Support  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-10  
License No. SNM-2506

Enclosure:  
5 Mile Radius Around  
the Prairie Island ISFSI

cc w/encl.:  
Ms. Merle Marks, THPO



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

December 19, 2019

Mr. Anthony Reider  
Flandreau-Santee Sioux Tribe  
P.O. Box 283  
Flandreau, SD 57028-0283

SUBJECT: SECTION 106 CONSULTATION OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT REGARDING THE PROPOSED LICENSE AMENDMENT FOR THE PRAIRIE ISLAND INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-10)

Dear Mr. Reider:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) received, by letter dated July 26, 2019, an application from the Northern States Power Company (NSPM) to amend Materials License Number SNM-2506 for the Prairie Island Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (PI ISFSI). The PI ISFSI is located within the site boundary of the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant (PINGP) in Goodhue County, Minnesota, approximately 28 miles southeast of the Minneapolis-St Paul metropolitan area (figure enclosed). The NSPM is requesting to amend its license to increase the maximum amount of spent fuel that may be possessed and stored at the PI ISFSI, as well as approval of the design of an additional concrete pad to be built within the confines of the existing facility. The licensee has stated that the new pad will utilize a design consistent with the existing pads and that installation of this new pad will result in ground disturbing activities to be performed within the existing ISFSI fencing.

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Please provide your concurrence or submit any comments and/or information you may have regarding this environmental review within 30 days of receipt of this letter to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Ms. Cinthya I. Román, Chief, 11555 Rockville Pike, Mail Stop: T-4B72, Rockville, Maryland 20852. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Jean Trefethen of my staff by telephone at 301-415-0867 or via email at [Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov](mailto:Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov).

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

John R. Tappert, Director  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
and Financial Support  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-10  
License No. SNM-2506

Enclosure:  
5 Mile Radius Around  
the Prairie Island ISFSI

cc w/encl.:  
Mr. Garrie KILLSAHUNDRED, THPO



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

December 19, 2019

Mr. Kevin DuPuis, Tribal Chairman  
Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa  
1720 Big Lake Road  
Cloquet, MN 55720

SUBJECT: SECTION 106 CONSULTATION OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT REGARDING THE PROPOSED LICENSE AMENDMENT FOR THE PRAIRIE ISLAND INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-10)

Dear Tribal Chairman DuPuis:

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Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

John R. Tappert, Director  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
and Financial Support  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-10  
License No. SNM-2506

Enclosure:  
5 Mile Radius Around  
the Prairie Island ISFSI

cc w/encl.:  
Ms. Jill Hoppe, THPO



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

December 19, 2019

Mr. Norman W. Deschampe, Chairperson  
Grand Portage Band of Ojibwe  
27 Store Road  
P.O. Box 428  
Grand Portage, MN 55605

SUBJECT: SECTION 106 CONSULTATION OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT REGARDING THE PROPOSED LICENSE AMENDMENT FOR THE PRAIRIE ISLAND INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-10)

Dear Chairperson Deschampe:

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Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

John R. Tappert, Director  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
and Financial Support  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-10  
License No. SNM-2506

Enclosure:  
5 Mile Radius Around  
the Prairie Island ISFSI

cc w/encl.:  
Ms. Mary Ann Gagnon, THPO  
Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa  
P.O. Box 428  
Grand Portage, MN 55605



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

December 19, 2019

Mr. Greg Blackdeer, Division Manager  
Ho-Chunk Nation  
Division of Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 726  
Black River Falls, WI 54615

SUBJECT: SECTION 106 CONSULTATION OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT REGARDING THE PROPOSED LICENSE AMENDMENT FOR THE PRAIRIE ISLAND INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-10)

Dear Mr. Blackdeer :

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In 2015, the NRC renewed the NSPM license to receive, possess, store, and transfer PINGP spent fuel in the PI ISFSI for an additional 40-year period. As part of the review, the NRC staff analyzed the potential environmental impacts associated with construction activities for potential future expansion of the ISFSI's capacity. This analysis included review of input from the Prairie Island Indian Community, original construction photographs, results of light detection and ranging remote sensing, and participation in a Phase I archeological survey conducted in September 2014. The NRC staff's assessment was documented in Section 4.14, of the "Cumulative Impacts" Section of the EA, dated June 2015 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession Number ML15098A026). The assessment found that the proposed expansion would not impact any areas beyond that evaluated in the 1992 licensing EA and would not result in an impact to any historic, archaeological or cultural resources. Additionally, NSPM committed to follow their Cultural Resources Management Plan, which states that if the ISFSI expansion is determined to have the potential to disturb previously undisturbed soils that could contain archaeological resources, then subsurface testing may be required to determine the significance of resources that may be present. In the 2015 license renewal EA, the NRC staff stated that, "The Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office determined that no properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places will be affected by [the ISFSI license renewal] project." Based on the project's scope and information from previous cultural resources and geotechnical surveys, the licensee has stated that the activities associated with this license amendment would not affect any historic and archaeological resources.

The NSPM PI ISFSI amendment request is publicly available in the NRC Public Document Room located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852, or from the NRC's ADAMS. The ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room is accessible at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

The accession number for the application package is ML19217A311. For your reference, this package includes correspondence that was sent to Ms. Heather Westra on February 1, 2019, from Mr. Scott Sharp, Site Vice President at PINGP, SUBJECT: "PINGP ISFSI Expansion Request for Information Regarding Potentially Affected Resources," as well as the response letter that was sent from Jessie Seim, General Counsel for the Prairie Island Indian Community on March 6, 2019.

Please provide your concurrence or submit any comments and/or information you may have regarding this environmental review within 30 days of receipt of this letter to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Ms. Cinthya I. Román, Chief, 11555 Rockville Pike, Mail Stop: T-4B72, Rockville, Maryland 20852. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Jean Trefethen of my staff by telephone at 301-415-0867 or via email at [Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov](mailto:Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov).

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

John R. Tappert, Director  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
and Financial Support  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-10  
License No. SNM-2506

Enclosure:  
5 Mile Radius Around  
the Prairie Island ISFSI



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

December 19, 2019

Mr. Faron Jackson, Chairman  
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe  
190 Sailstar Drive, NW  
Cass Lake, MN 56601

SUBJECT: SECTION 106 CONSULTATION OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT REGARDING THE PROPOSED LICENSE AMENDMENT FOR THE PRAIRIE ISLAND INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-10)

Dear Chairman Jackson:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) received, by letter dated July 26, 2019, an application from the Northern States Power Company (NSPM) to amend Materials License Number SNM-2506 for the Prairie Island Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (PI ISFSI). The PI ISFSI is located within the site boundary of the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant (PINGP) in Goodhue County, Minnesota, approximately 28 miles southeast of the Minneapolis-St Paul metropolitan area (figure enclosed). The NSPM is requesting to amend its license to increase the maximum amount of spent fuel that may be possessed and stored at the PI ISFSI, as well as approval of the design of an additional concrete pad to be built within the confines of the existing facility. The licensee has stated that the new pad will utilize a design consistent with the existing pads and that installation of this new pad will result in ground disturbing activities to be performed within the existing ISFSI fencing.

The SNM-2506 currently allows NSPM to store up to 48 TN-40 and TN-40HT casks of spent fuel. The NSPM license amendment requests approval to store up to an additional 16 casks, for a total of 64 casks. The NSPM has a Certificate of Need from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission for the expansion of the ISFSI to accommodate a total of 64 casks. Current PI ISFSI operations include storage and periodic transfer of filled casks to the ISFSI pad and routine inspections and monitoring of the ISFSI site; these activities are expected to continue.

As established in Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 51, the NRC regulation that implements the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA), the NRC staff is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for this proposed action, the requested amendment to the PI ISFSI license. The purpose of the EA is to assess potential environmental impacts that may significantly affect the human environment. In accordance with 36 CFR §800.8 (Coordination with the National Environmental Policy Act), the NRC staff is coordinating compliance of the Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, with its NEPA review process. The EA will include an analysis of potential impacts to historic and cultural resources. In support of the environmental review, the NRC staff is requesting your concurrence on NRC's determination that the proposed PI ISFSI expansion does not have the potential to cause effects to historic properties, assuming they were present. This determination is based on the following information.



In 2015, the NRC renewed the NSPM license to receive, possess, store, and transfer PINGP spent fuel in the PI ISFSI for an additional 40-year period. As part of the review, the NRC staff analyzed the potential environmental impacts associated with construction activities for potential future expansion of the ISFSI's capacity. This analysis included review of input from the Prairie Island Indian Community, original construction photographs, results of light detection and ranging remote sensing, and participation in a Phase I archeological survey conducted in September 2014. The NRC staff's assessment was documented in Section 4.14, of the "Cumulative Impacts" Section of the EA, dated June 2015 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession Number ML15098A026). The assessment found that the proposed expansion would not impact any areas beyond that evaluated in the 1992 licensing EA and would not result in an impact to any historic, archaeological or cultural resources. Additionally, NSPM committed to follow their Cultural Resources Management Plan, which states that if the ISFSI expansion is determined to have the potential to disturb previously undisturbed soils that could contain archaeological resources, then subsurface testing may be required to determine the significance of resources that may be present. In the 2015 license renewal EA, the NRC staff stated that, "The Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office determined that no properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places will be affected by [the ISFSI license renewal] project." Based on the project's scope and information from previous cultural resources and geotechnical surveys, the licensee has stated that the activities associated with this license amendment would not affect any historic and archaeological resources.

The NSPM PI ISFSI amendment request is publicly available in the NRC Public Document Room located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852, or from the NRC's ADAMS. The ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room is accessible at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

The accession number for the application package is ML19217A311. For your reference, this package includes correspondence that was sent to Ms. Heather Westra on February 1, 2019, from Mr. Scott Sharp, Site Vice President at PINGP, SUBJECT: "PINGP ISFSI Expansion Request for Information Regarding Potentially Affected Resources," as well as the response letter that was sent from Jessie Seim, General Counsel for the Prairie Island Indian Community on March 6, 2019.

Please provide your concurrence or submit any comments and/or information you may have regarding this environmental review within 30 days of receipt of this letter to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Ms. Cinthya I. Román, Chief, 11555 Rockville Pike, Mail Stop: T-4B72, Rockville, Maryland 20852. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Jean Trefethen of my staff by telephone at 301-415-0867 or via email at [Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov](mailto:Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov).

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

John R. Tappert, Director  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
and Financial Support  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-10  
License No. SNM-2506

Enclosure:  
5 Mile Radius Around  
the Prairie Island ISFSI

cc w/encl.:  
Ms. Amy Burnette, THPO  
Leech Lake Historic Preservation Office  
115 6th Street, NW, Suite E  
Cass Lake, MN 56633



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

December 19, 2019

Mr. Boyd I. Gourneau, Chair  
Lower Brule Sioux Tribe  
P.O. Box 187  
Lower Brule, SD 57548-0187

SUBJECT: SECTION 106 CONSULTATION OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT REGARDING THE PROPOSED LICENSE AMENDMENT FOR THE PRAIRIE ISLAND INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-10)

Dear Chair Gourneau:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) received, by letter dated July 26, 2019, an application from the Northern States Power Company (NSPM) to amend Materials License Number SNM-2506 for the Prairie Island Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (PI ISFSI). The PI ISFSI is located within the site boundary of the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant (PINGP) in Goodhue County, Minnesota, approximately 28 miles southeast of the Minneapolis-St Paul metropolitan area (figure enclosed). The NSPM is requesting to amend its license to increase the maximum amount of spent fuel that may be possessed and stored at the PI ISFSI, as well as approval of the design of an additional concrete pad to be built within the confines of the existing facility. The licensee has stated that the new pad will utilize a design consistent with the existing pads and that installation of this new pad will result in ground disturbing activities to be performed within the existing ISFSI fencing.

The SNM-2506 currently allows NSPM to store up to 48 TN-40 and TN-40HT casks of spent fuel. The NSPM license amendment requests approval to store up to an additional 16 casks, for a total of 64 casks. The NSPM has a Certificate of Need from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission for the expansion of the ISFSI to accommodate a total of 64 casks. Current PI ISFSI operations include storage and periodic transfer of filled casks to the ISFSI pad and routine inspections and monitoring of the ISFSI site; these activities are expected to continue.

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The NSPM PI ISFSI amendment request is publicly available in the NRC Public Document Room located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852, or from the NRC's ADAMS. The ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room is accessible at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

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Please provide your concurrence or submit any comments and/or information you may have regarding this environmental review within 30 days of receipt of this letter to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Ms. Cinthya I. Román, Chief, 11555 Rockville Pike, Mail Stop: T-4B72, Rockville, Maryland 20852. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Jean Trefethen of my staff by telephone at 301-415-0867 or via email at [Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov](mailto:Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov).

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

John R. Tappert, Director  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
and Financial Support  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-10  
License No. SNM-2506

Enclosure:  
5 Mile Radius Around  
the Prairie Island ISFSI

cc w/encl.:  
Ms. Clair Green



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

December 19, 2019

Mr. Robert Larsen, President  
Lower Sioux Indian Community of Minnesota  
P.O. Box 308  
39527 Reservation Hwy 1  
Morton, MN 56270

SUBJECT: SECTION 106 CONSULTATION OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT REGARDING THE PROPOSED LICENSE AMENDMENT FOR THE PRAIRIE ISLAND INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-10)

Dear President Larsen:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) received, by letter dated July 26, 2019, an application from the Northern States Power Company (NSPM) to amend Materials License Number SNM-2506 for the Prairie Island Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (PI ISFSI). The PI ISFSI is located within the site boundary of the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant (PINGP) in Goodhue County, Minnesota, approximately 28 miles southeast of the Minneapolis-St Paul metropolitan area (figure enclosed). The NSPM is requesting to amend its license to increase the maximum amount of spent fuel that may be possessed and stored at the PI ISFSI, as well as approval of the design of an additional concrete pad to be built within the confines of the existing facility. The licensee has stated that the new pad will utilize a design consistent with the existing pads and that installation of this new pad will result in ground disturbing activities to be performed within the existing ISFSI fencing.

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Please provide your concurrence or submit any comments and/or information you may have regarding this environmental review within 30 days of receipt of this letter to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Ms. Cinthya I. Román, Chief, 11555 Rockville Pike, Mail Stop: T-4B72, Rockville, Maryland 20852. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Jean Trefethen of my staff by telephone at 301-415-0867 or via email at [Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov](mailto:Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov).

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

John R. Tappert, Director  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
and Financial Support  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-10  
License No. SNM-2506

Enclosure:  
5 Mile Radius Around  
the Prairie Island ISFSI

cc w/encl.:  
Ms. Cheyanne St. John  
THPO/Historic Site Mgr  
Lower Sioux Indian Community  
of Minnesota  
39527 Reservation Highway 1  
Morton, MN 56270





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

December 19, 2019

Honorable Melanie Benjamin, Chief Executive  
Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe  
43408 Oodena Drive  
Onamia, MN 56359-2236

SUBJECT: SECTION 106 CONSULTATION OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT REGARDING THE PROPOSED LICENSE AMENDMENT FOR THE PRAIRIE ISLAND INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-10)

Dear Honorable Benjamin:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) received, by letter dated July 26, 2019, an application from the Northern States Power Company (NSPM) to amend Materials License Number SNM-2506 for the Prairie Island Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (PI ISFSI). The PI ISFSI is located within the site boundary of the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant (PINGP) in Goodhue County, Minnesota, approximately 28 miles southeast of the Minneapolis-St Paul metropolitan area (figure enclosed). The NSPM is requesting to amend its license to increase the maximum amount of spent fuel that may be possessed and stored at the PI ISFSI, as well as approval of the design of an additional concrete pad to be built within the confines of the existing facility. The licensee has stated that the new pad will utilize a design consistent with the existing pads and that installation of this new pad will result in ground disturbing activities to be performed within the existing ISFSI fencing.

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Please provide your concurrence or submit any comments and/or information you may have regarding this environmental review within 30 days of receipt of this letter to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Ms. Cinthya I. Román, Chief, 11555 Rockville Pike, Mail Stop: T-4B72, Rockville, Maryland 20852. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Jean Trefethen of my staff by telephone at 301-415-0867 or via email at [Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov](mailto:Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov).

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

John R. Tappert, Director  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
and Financial Support  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-10  
License No. SNM-2506

Enclosure:  
5 Mile Radius Around  
the Prairie Island ISFSI

cc w/encl.:  
Ms. Natalie Weyaus, THPO



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

December 19, 2019

Mr. Julian Bear Runner, President  
Oglala Sioux Tribe  
P.O. Box 2070  
Pine Ridge, SD 57770-2070

SUBJECT: SECTION 106 CONSULTATION OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT REGARDING THE PROPOSED LICENSE AMENDMENT FOR THE PRAIRIE ISLAND INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-10)

Dear President Bear Runner:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) received, by letter dated July 26, 2019, an application from the Northern States Power Company (NSPM) to amend Materials License Number SNM-2506 for the Prairie Island Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (PI ISFSI). The PI ISFSI is located within the site boundary of the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant (PINGP) in Goodhue County, Minnesota, approximately 28 miles southeast of the Minneapolis-St Paul metropolitan area (figure enclosed). The NSPM is requesting to amend its license to increase the maximum amount of spent fuel that may be possessed and stored at the PI ISFSI, as well as approval of the design of an additional concrete pad to be built within the confines of the existing facility. The licensee has stated that the new pad will utilize a design consistent with the existing pads and that installation of this new pad will result in ground disturbing activities to be performed within the existing ISFSI fencing.

The SNM-2506 currently allows NSPM to store up to 48 TN-40 and TN-40HT casks of spent fuel. The NSPM license amendment requests approval to store up to an additional 16 casks, for a total of 64 casks. The NSPM has a Certificate of Need from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission for the expansion of the ISFSI to accommodate a total of 64 casks. Current PI ISFSI operations include storage and periodic transfer of filled casks to the ISFSI pad and routine inspections and monitoring of the ISFSI site; these activities are expected to continue.

As established in Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 51, the NRC regulation that implements the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA), the NRC staff is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for this proposed action, the requested amendment to the PI ISFSI license. The purpose of the EA is to assess potential environmental impacts that may significantly affect the human environment. In accordance with 36 CFR §800.8 (Coordination with the National Environmental Policy Act), the NRC staff is coordinating compliance of the Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, with its NEPA review process. The EA will include an analysis of potential impacts to historic and cultural resources. In support of the environmental review, the NRC staff is requesting your concurrence on NRC's determination that the proposed PI ISFSI expansion does not have the potential to cause effects to historic properties, assuming they were present. This determination is based on the following information.

In 2015, the NRC renewed the NSPM license to receive, possess, store, and transfer PINGP spent fuel in the PI ISFSI for an additional 40-year period. As part of the review, the NRC staff analyzed the potential environmental impacts associated with construction activities for potential future expansion of the ISFSI's capacity. This analysis included review of input from the Prairie Island Indian Community, original construction photographs, results of light detection and ranging remote sensing, and participation in a Phase I archeological survey conducted in September 2014. The NRC staff's assessment was documented in Section 4.14, of the "Cumulative Impacts" Section of the EA, dated June 2015 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession Number ML15098A026). The assessment found that the proposed expansion would not impact any areas beyond that evaluated in the 1992 licensing EA and would not result in an impact to any historic, archaeological or cultural resources. Additionally, NSPM committed to follow their Cultural Resources Management Plan, which states that if the ISFSI expansion is determined to have the potential to disturb previously undisturbed soils that could contain archaeological resources, then subsurface testing may be required to determine the significance of resources that may be present. In the 2015 license renewal EA, the NRC staff stated that, "The Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office determined that no properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places will be affected by [the ISFSI license renewal] project." Based on the project's scope and information from previous cultural resources and geotechnical surveys, the licensee has stated that the activities associated with this license amendment would not affect any historic and archaeological resources.

The NSPM PI ISFSI amendment request is publicly available in the NRC Public Document Room located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852, or from the NRC's ADAMS. The ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room is accessible at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

The accession number for the application package is ML19217A311. For your reference, this package includes correspondence that was sent to Ms. Heather Westra on February 1, 2019, from Mr. Scott Sharp, Site Vice President at PINGP, SUBJECT: "PINGP ISFSI Expansion Request for Information Regarding Potentially Affected Resources," as well as the response letter that was sent from Jessie Seim, General Counsel for the Prairie Island Indian Community on March 6, 2019.

Please provide your concurrence or submit any comments and/or information you may have regarding this environmental review within 30 days of receipt of this letter to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Ms. Cinthya I. Román, Chief, 11555 Rockville Pike, Mail Stop: T-4B72, Rockville, Maryland 20852. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Jean Trefethen of my staff by telephone at 301-415-0867 or via email at [Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov](mailto:Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov).

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

John R. Tappert, Director  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
and Financial Support  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-10  
License No. SNM-2506

Enclosure:  
5 Mile Radius Around  
the Prairie Island ISFSI

cc w/encl.:  
Mr. Thomas Brings, THPO



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

December 19, 2019

Mr. Darrel Seki, Sr., Chairperson  
Red Lake Band of Chippewa  
15484 Migizi Drive  
Red Lake, MN 56671

SUBJECT: SECTION 106 CONSULTATION OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT REGARDING THE PROPOSED LICENSE AMENDMENT FOR THE PRAIRIE ISLAND INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-10)

Dear Chairperson Seki:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) received, by letter dated July 26, 2019, an application from the Northern States Power Company (NSPM) to amend Materials License Number SNM-2506 for the Prairie Island Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (PI ISFSI). The PI ISFSI is located within the site boundary of the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant (PINGP) in Goodhue County, Minnesota, approximately 28 miles southeast of the Minneapolis-St Paul metropolitan area (figure enclosed). The NSPM is requesting to amend its license to increase the maximum amount of spent fuel that may be possessed and stored at the PI ISFSI, as well as approval of the design of an additional concrete pad to be built within the confines of the existing facility. The licensee has stated that the new pad will utilize a design consistent with the existing pads and that installation of this new pad will result in ground disturbing activities to be performed within the existing ISFSI fencing.

The SNM-2506 currently allows NSPM to store up to 48 TN-40 and TN-40HT casks of spent fuel. The NSPM license amendment requests approval to store up to an additional 16 casks, for a total of 64 casks. The NSPM has a Certificate of Need from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission for the expansion of the ISFSI to accommodate a total of 64 casks. Current PI ISFSI operations include storage and periodic transfer of filled casks to the ISFSI pad and routine inspections and monitoring of the ISFSI site; these activities are expected to continue.

As established in Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 51, the NRC regulation that implements the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA), the NRC staff is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for this proposed action, the requested amendment to the PI ISFSI license. The purpose of the EA is to assess potential environmental impacts that may significantly affect the human environment. In accordance with 36 CFR §800.8 (Coordination with the National Environmental Policy Act), the NRC staff is coordinating compliance of the Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, with its NEPA review process. The EA will include an analysis of potential impacts to historic and cultural resources. In support of the environmental review, the NRC staff is requesting your concurrence on NRC's determination that the proposed PI ISFSI expansion does not have the potential to cause effects to historic properties, assuming they were present. This determination is based on the following information.

In 2015, the NRC renewed the NSPM license to receive, possess, store, and transfer PINGP spent fuel in the PI ISFSI for an additional 40-year period. As part of the review, the NRC staff analyzed the potential environmental impacts associated with construction activities for potential future expansion of the ISFSI's capacity. This analysis included review of input from the Prairie Island Indian Community, original construction photographs, results of light detection and ranging remote sensing, and participation in a Phase I archeological survey conducted in September 2014. The NRC staff's assessment was documented in Section 4.14, of the "Cumulative Impacts" Section of the EA, dated June 2015 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession Number ML15098A026). The assessment found that the proposed expansion would not impact any areas beyond that evaluated in the 1992 licensing EA and would not result in an impact to any historic, archaeological or cultural resources. Additionally, NSPM committed to follow their Cultural Resources Management Plan, which states that if the ISFSI expansion is determined to have the potential to disturb previously undisturbed soils that could contain archaeological resources, then subsurface testing may be required to determine the significance of resources that may be present. In the 2015 license renewal EA, the NRC staff stated that, "The Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office determined that no properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places will be affected by [the ISFSI license renewal] project." Based on the project's scope and information from previous cultural resources and geotechnical surveys, the licensee has stated that the activities associated with this license amendment would not affect any historic and archaeological resources.

The NSPM PI ISFSI amendment request is publicly available in the NRC Public Document Room located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852, or from the NRC's ADAMS. The ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room is accessible at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

The accession number for the application package is ML19217A311. For your reference, this package includes correspondence that was sent to Ms. Heather Westra on February 1, 2019, from Mr. Scott Sharp, Site Vice President at PINGP, SUBJECT: "PINGP ISFSI Expansion Request for Information Regarding Potentially Affected Resources," as well as the response letter that was sent from Jessie Seim, General Counsel for the Prairie Island Indian Community on March 6, 2019.



Please provide your concurrence or submit any comments and/or information you may have regarding this environmental review within 30 days of receipt of this letter to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Ms. Cinthya I. Román, Chief, 11555 Rockville Pike, Mail Stop: T-4B72, Rockville, Maryland 20852. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Jean Trefethen of my staff by telephone at 301-415-0867 or via email at [Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov](mailto:Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov).

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

John R. Tappert, Director  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
and Financial Support  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-10  
License No. SNM-2506

Enclosure:  
5 Mile Radius Around  
the Prairie Island ISFSI

cc w/encl.:  
Ms. Kade Ferris, THPO  
Red Lake Band of Chippewa  
P.O. Box 274  
Red Lake, MN 56671

SUBJECT: SECTION 106 CONSULTATION OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT REGARDING THE PROPOSED LICENSE AMENDMENT FOR THE PRAIRIE ISLAND INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-10)

DATED: December 19, 2019

**Identical letters have been sent to:**

- Chairman Robert Flying Hawk, Yankton Sioux Tribe
- Chairman Coly Brown, Winnebago Tribe
- Chairman Michael Fairbanks, White Earth Nation of Minnesota Chippewa
- Tribal Chairman Kevin Jensvold, Upper Sioux
- Chairman Jamie Azure, Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa
- Chairman Mark Fox, Three Affiliated Tribes
- Chairman Lewis Taylor, St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin
- Chairman Mike Faith, Standing Rock Sioux Tribe
- Chairperson Peggy Cavanaugh, Spirit Lake Tribe of Fort Totten
- Chairman Donovan White, Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate
- Chairman Roger Trudell, Santee Sioux Tribe of Nebraska
- President Rodney M. Bordeaux, Rosebud Sioux Tribe
- Chair Charles Vig, Shakopee Mdewakandon Sioux
- Tribal Chairwoman Cathy Chavers, Bois Forte Band of Chippewa
- Chair Harold Frazier, Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe
- Chair Lester Thompson, Jr., Crow Creek Sioux Tribe
- Anthony Reider, Flandreau-Santee Sioux Tribe
- Tribal Chairman Kevin DuPuis, Fond Du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- Chairperson Norman W. Deschampe, Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- Division Manager Greg Blackdeer, Ho-Chunk
- Chairman Faron Jackson, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe
- Chair Boyd I. Gourneau, Lower Brule Sioux Tribe
- President Robert Larsen, Lower Sioux Indian Community
- Honorable Melanie Benjamin, Mille Lac Band Ojibwe
- President Julian Bear Runner, Oglala Sioux Tribe
- Chairperson Darrel Seki, Sr., Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians

**ADAMS Accession Number: ML19312A048 Pkg**

**\*via email**

| OFFICE | REFS/ERMB | REFS/ERMB   | REFS/ERMB     | OGC        | REFS/ERMB  | REFS       |
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| NAME   | MCoflin   | JTrefethen* | AWalker-Smith | *ACoggins  | CRomán     | JTappert   |
| DATE   | 11/4/2019 | 11/4/2019   | 11/4/2019     | 11/22/2019 | 12/03/2019 | 12/19/2019 |

**OFFICIAL RECORD COPY**

