

REQUEST REPLY BY: 10/16/06

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

September 29, 2006

Approved.

MEMORANDUM TO: Chairman Klein
 Commissioner McGaffigan
 Commissioner Merrifield
 Commissioner Jaczko
 Commissioner Lyons

FROM: *Luis Reyes*
 Luis Reyes
 Executive Director for Operations

Dale E. Klein
 Dale E. Klein 10/17/06

SUBJECT: RECOMMENDATION ON ESTABLISHING A SINGLE, VISIBLE,
 HIGH-LEVEL POINT OF CONTACT IN THE OFFICE OF THE
 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR OPERATIONS FOR THE TRIBES

This memorandum responds to a June 16, 2006, Staff Requirements Memorandum (SRM), "Staff Requirements-SECY-06-0125-Proposed Reorganization of the Offices of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards and State and Tribal Programs," which directed the Executive Director for Operations to provide a recommendation to the Commission on establishing a single, visible high-level point of contact in the Office of the Executive Director for Operations (OEDO) for the tribes.

In 2000, the Office of State Programs was designated as the Office of State and Tribal Programs (OSTP) to provide Native American Tribal Governments with a liaison point of contact at the NRC. On October 1, 2006, OSTP will be integrated with portions of the Office of Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguards to form the Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs (FSME). This office provides interested Native American Tribal Governments with NRC-related information of general interest, such as press releases, advance information of proposed rulemaking, and meeting notices, via an electronic list server. In the OEDO, the Deputy Executive Director for Materials, Research, State and Compliance Programs (DEDMRS) is responsible for oversight of FSME and making recommendations to the Commission on policy issues associated with the tribes. To date, the liaison activities completed by the staff and OEDO in this area have resulted in positive interactions with the tribes and engagement of the OEDO and Commission on significant or complex tribal issues.

In evaluating establishing a tribal point of contact in OEDO, consideration was given to effectiveness and efficiency. FSME staff have the requisite history and background on interaction with the tribes to successfully complete such liaison duties. As such, any tribal liaison functions completed at the OEDO level would need to be coordinated with the staff, which may hinder effectiveness and efficiency. In addition, communication and coordination with the tribes is unique in that the tribal governments frequently express that they desire consultation in the form of regular contact and attendance at their meetings, which may not be practical at the OEDO level.



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FROM: *Luis Reyes*
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Approved
E. McInerney
10/10/06

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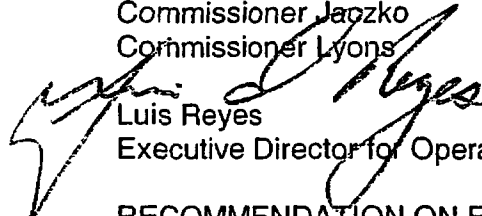
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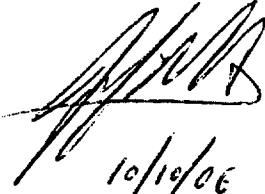
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I approve.

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Luis Reyes
Executive Director for Operations

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I approve the staff's recommendation and its initiatives to enhance the visibility of tribal liaison functions.



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FROM: *Luis Reyes*
 Luis Reyes
 Executive Director for Operations

Peter B. Lyons
 Peter B. Lyons
 10/4/06
 Date

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