



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

May 18, 2022

Chief Michelle Mitchum
Pine Hill Indian Tribe
Executive Director
Pine Hill Indian Community Development Initiative
4055 Coburg Lane
Orangeburg, SC 29115

SUBJECT: WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC COMPANY'S COLUMBIA FUEL FABRICATION
FACILITY LICENSE RENEWAL REVIEW

Dear Chief Mitchum:

Thank you for your letter dated May 10, 2022 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System [ADAMS] Accession No. [ML22130A680](#)) regarding your concerns about the May 9, 2022 earthquake that occurred in the vicinity of the Westinghouse Columbia Fuel Fabrication Facility in Hopkins, SC (Westinghouse). The impacts of seismology on the facility and Westinghouse's emergency response plans are not considered within the scope of the Environmental Impact Statement. Instead, the risk of earthquakes is addressed in the safety evaluation report being developed for the proposed license renewal on the Westinghouse license renewal action. Although the license renewal is still under review by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff, seismic and flooding hazards were evaluated in-depth in 2016 in response to Generic Letter [GL-2015-01](#), "Treatment of Natural Phenomena Hazards in Fuel Cycle Facilities." Westinghouse responded to the generic letter with the information requested regarding seismic and flooding hazards at the site ([ML15238B643](#)). The NRC staff reviewed the response and completed an inspection in 2016 to verify the actions completed, and the review of seismic and flooding hazards was closed out later that year ([ML16251A030](#)).

Additionally, NRC uses its inspection program (based out of NRC Region II in Atlanta, Georgia) to ensure that Westinghouse implements the requirements in the regulations and follows the commitments in their special nuclear materials license.

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Section 2.390, "Public inspections, exemptions, requests for withholding," of the NRC's "Agency Rules of Practice and Procedure," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR), or from the NRC's ADAMS. The PDR is open by appointment only. You may submit your request to the PDR via email at PDR.Resource@nrc.gov or call 1-800-397-4209 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. (EST), Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. ADAMS is accessible from the NRC website at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>

If you have any questions regarding the license renewal review, please contact me at 301-415-2328 or via email at Jennifer.Tobin@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jenny Tobin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jenny Tobin, Project Manager
Fuel Facility Licensing Branch
Division of Fuel Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

cc: E. Johnson, SHPO ejohnson@scdah.sc.gov

SUBJECT: WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC COMPANY'S COLUMBIA FUEL FABRICATION
FACILITY HOPKINS, SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCUMENT DATE: May 18, 2022

DISTRIBUTION:

JTappert, NMSS	TVukovinsky, RII	LWilkins, OCA	JTrefethen, NMSS
CRegan, NMSS	TInverso, NMSS	Slmboden, NMSS	
SHelton, NMSS	EMichel, RII	STalley, NMSS	
DMcIntyre, OPA	DGasperson, RII	JWhited, NMSS	

ADAMS Accession Number: ML22133A023

OFFICE	NMSS/DFM/ FFLB/PM	NMSS/DFM/ FFLB/LA	NMSS/REFS/ ERMB/BC	RII/DFFI	NMSS/DFM/ FFLB/BC	NMSS/DFM/ FFLB/PM
NAME	JTobin	ELee	Slmboden acting for JQuintero	EMichel	JZimmerman	JTobin
DATE	5/11/2022	05/13/2022	5/12/2022	5/12/2022	5/18/2022	5/18/2022

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY