



**NEW MEXICO
INDIAN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT
and
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO**



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December 2, 2020

Jessie M. Quintero
Office of Administration
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Submitted electronically to: UNC-ChurchRockEIS.resource@nrc.gov

RE: United Nuclear Corporation Church Rock Project (Docket No. 40-8907), Draft Environmental Impact Statement, 85 Fed. Reg. 72706; November 13, 2020

Dear Ms. Quintero:


The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has prepared a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for amendments to the United Nuclear Corporation (UNC) Church Rock Uranium Mill in western New Mexico, Docket No. 40-8907. The NRC is currently accepting public comments on the draft EIS.

The request for public comment was noticed in the Federal Register on November 13, 2020 at 85 Fed. Reg. 72706. According to the Public Notice, "UNC is requesting authorization to amend its license (SUA-1475) to excavate approximately 1 million cubic yards of mine waste from the Northeast Church Rock Mine Site and dispose of it at the existing [Church Rock] mill site in McKinley County, New Mexico."

In light of the global pandemic and public health crisis with the spread of the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19), many state, local, and tribal leaders and their communities are focused on ensuring health and public safety first and foremost in this unprecedented situation. It is critical that the public have adequate time to review and respond to the draft EIS. Therefore, we respectfully request that the NRC extend the comment period of the draft EIS by at least 60 days, to allow sufficient time for public input.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Lynn Trujillo
Cabinet Secretary
Indian Affairs Department

Jennifer
Pruett
James C. Kenney
Cabinet Secretary
Environment Department

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Jennifer Pruett
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