FEB 27 2015

Dr. Stella Swanson
Chair, Joint Review Panel
Deep Geologic Repository Project
c/o Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
P.O. Box 1046, Station B
280 Slater Street
Ottawa ON K1P 5S9

Dear Dr. Swanson:

Re: Upcoming Consultation for the Deep Geologic Repository Project for Low and Intermediate Level Radioactive Waste (DGR) Environmental Assessment Process

In anticipation of the submission of the Environmental Assessment Report by the Joint Review Panel for the DGR Project, the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (the Agency) is taking steps to ensure that consultation occurs for the last phase of the environmental assessment process.

Given the environmental assessment decision the Minister of the Environment will be making in relation to the DGR Project, the Agency will be consulting Aboriginal groups on the Environmental Assessment Report and proposed environmental assessment decision statement conditions for the DGR Project following the submission of the Environmental Assessment Report by the Joint Review Panel. At the same time, the Agency will also seek views from participants who have previously intervened in the environmental assessment process (interested parties) on the proposed environmental assessment decision statement conditions.

Following the conclusion of the environmental assessment process, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission will resume Aboriginal consultation activities for licenses that are required under the Nuclear Safety and Control Act for the DGR Project.
To support the Agency's consultation activities, the Agency will offer funding to Aboriginal groups and other interested parties through the Agency's Participant Funding Program. In order to make funds available by the time the Environmental Assessment Report is made public, the Agency will contact Aboriginal groups and other interested parties in March 2015 to seek their interest in applying for the funding.

Should you have any questions regarding these planned consultation activities, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

<original signed by>

Steve Chapman
Director, National Programs

c.c.: Mr. Kiza Francis, Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
      Ms. Laurie Swami, Ontario Power Generation