

Journal #4804 from sdc 10.6.20

Let's her it for Yomba!

'Something else' may make all the difference this election

My Grandma and I (In Paiute)

Native American Committee Comments on EIS - Interim Storage (Docket ID NRC-2016-0231)

CSU/Consortium Honor Lorenda "Corky" Sanchez

Behold the Largest Congregation of Bald Eagles in the United States

Bison Mummies Help Scientists Ruminant on Ancient Climate

Discussion of Contemporary Native Children's Literature w/Authors Traci Sorell & Carla Messinger

More Books to Buy/Read/Gift



good morning,

what a day we had on the Yomba Shoshone Reservation as we picked up ballots from various tribal members because Tonopah is way too far to travel when you don't have good vehicle tires and you do not have reliable transportation - cell phone service is also sketchy here in the valley.

see the pictures of our Native Cowboys picking up ballots on horseback - Louis Afraid of Hawk and Rusty Brady and Daniel Hooper. Like it says "Every Indian

Vote Matters" and after delivering the ballots to Tonopah where both Janet Bryan Weed and Chairman Snooks casted their votes - there was a strong sense of "goodness" like a "job well-done";

While driving through Indian Valley which is South end of Reese River Valley - all dirt roads and a shorter route to Tonopah - it was a genuine experience of "freedom" as we traveled through our ancestral lands of wilderness like country.

all this was possible due to Ellen reaching out to me for coordination ... there are many individuals to thank: The Nevada Indian Vote-Teresa Melendez, Ellen, Chairman Snooks, Davonna Hooper, Torie Turner, Thoma Pacheco, Clyde Gentry, Aries Rattling Leaf, Louis Afraid of Hawk, Rusty Brady, Esther Birchim, and all the other tribal members who supported this important event that has full impact to our Indian sovereignty and our lives as Native people. Zande



[Mission Accomplished!](#) [From: Janet weed <weedjanet@yahoo.com>](#)

'Something else' may make all the difference this election

[https://indiancountrytoday.com/news/something-else-may-make-all-the-difference-this-election-26NNq7jZkUG3vCP-MMdxQA?](https://indiancountrytoday.com/news/something-else-may-make-all-the-difference-this-election-26NNq7jZkUG3vCP-MMdxQA?fbclid=IwAR1dDapud6WhxNFeYntpRG9JdexdlQAIT4L-Yvdm1j_YnwC6IyCYeH4ztro)

[fbclid=IwAR1dDapud6WhxNFeYntpRG9JdexdlQAIT4L-Yvdm1j_YnwC6IyCYeH4ztro](https://indiancountrytoday.com/news/something-else-may-make-all-the-difference-this-election-26NNq7jZkUG3vCP-MMdxQA?fbclid=IwAR1dDapud6WhxNFeYntpRG9JdexdlQAIT4L-Yvdm1j_YnwC6IyCYeH4ztro)

"People often say that, in a democracy, decisions are made by a majority of the people. Of course, that is not true. Decisions are made by a majority of those who make themselves heard and who vote – a very different thing." — [Walter H. Judd](#)

[youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com)

[My Grandma and I \(In Paiute\)](#)

[Kooyoee Tukadu Language and Culture Program \(Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe\), Nixon, Nevada.](#)

[Click on middle panel](#)

[Heidi Barlese](#)



A little something I did with my Dad. My Niece did the artwork.

Attachments: [NRC ISP CISF EIS COMMENTS 11-3-2020.pdf](#)

**Comments of the Native Community Action Council November 3, 2020 on the NUREG-2239--
Environmental Impact Statement for Interim Storage**

Partners LLC's License Application for a Consolidated Interim Storage Facility for Spent Nuclear Fuel in Andrews County, Texas

Docket ID NRC-2016-0231

Submitted to: Office of Administration, Mail Stop: TWFN-7-A60M, U.S. Nuclear
Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001,

ATTN: Program Management, Announcements and Editing Staff: WCS_CISF_EIS@nrc.gov.

COMMENTS:

The Native Community Action Council recommends the No-Action Alternative because the proposed action is illegal since the Nuclear Regulatory Commission makes an unconstitutional assumption of a proposed permanent repository at Yucca Mountain where the Treaty of Ruby Valley (Consolidated Treaty Series Vol. 127 (1863) is in full force and effect, thereby controlling any matter touching Shoshone country at Yucca Mountain.

The proposed Yucca Mountain site is unconstitutional and therefore illegal under law. The No-Action Alternative is the only option available at this time because the Environmental Impact Statement is misleading in intent to assume eventual transport of commercial nuclear waste to the unconstitutional Yucca Mountain site—NRC assuming site acceptability is a congressional matter when, in fact, Congress has acted by the Treaty of Ruby Valley that is controlling as the “supreme law of the land” (US Const. Art.6 Sec.2) making proposed action a violation of the nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 that does not allow siting of an interim storage facility until a permanent repository is operable.

The proposed action should be renamed the Interim Storage Partners Consolidated Permanent Storage Facility for Nuclear Spent Fuel in Andrews County, reflecting the de facto permanence of nuclear waste sent there without the unconstitutional proposed permanent Yucca Mountain site. Texas and Andrews County should reevaluate all Nuclear Regulatory Commission assumptions and recalculate all cost benefit and impacts based upon the permanence of the proposed action alternative that, is itself, illegal.

1.4.3 Issues Outside the Scope of the Environmental Impact Statement

Yucca Mountain should be outside the scope of the Environmental Impact Statement because Congress has acted on the issue of ownership by entering into formal relations by the Treaty of Ruby Valley that is not and never has been part of the United States (18 Stat 689).

3.3.2 Transportation from the Generation Site and to a Permanent Repository

The US Nuclear Regulatory Commission assumption is unconstitutionally wrong and demonstrated malfeasance or at least incompetence both, of which are unacceptable and affirm the Native Community Action Council position supporting the NO-ACTION ALTERNATIVE. The US Nuclear Regulatory Commission assumption intends to mislead reviewers and therefore is lying. The public cannot have confidence in the proposed action.

The US Department of Energy is trespassing on Shoshone property causing damage to Shoshone country and together with the people of the State of Nevada, a coordinate agency in receivership of funds derived from grants/ payments equal to taxes from Shoshone property is defrauding the Shoshone people of the benefits that should accrue to the Shoshone Nation from rights, title and interests defined by the Treaty of Ruby Valley in 1863, the basis for relations between US and the Shoshone Nation of Indians.

The US Department of Energy has failed to prove ownership as required by US Nuclear Regulatory Commission Regulations 10 CFR § 60.121 Requirements for Ownership and Control of Interests in Land. This fact is confirmed by Nuclear Regulatory Commission’s Safety Evaluation Report Related to Disposal of High-Level Radioactive Wastes in a Geologic Repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada: Administrative and Programmatic Requirements (NUREG-1949, Volume 4):

“The NRC staff finds that DOE has not met the requirements 10 CFR 63.121(a) and 10 CFR 63.121(d)(1) regarding ownership of land and water rights, respectively.”

Even with the US Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Master Title Plats that are the land status record of the United States government the US Department of Energy cannot prove ownership to Yucca Mountain in the heart of Shoshone homelands.

It bears making note that the license proponent at Yucca Mountain has created a study protocol of “cultural triage” in the siting of the proposed repository that shall serve as a fact of the intent to destroy both the Shoshone people and damage Shoshone property by nuclear development. The Department of Energy conducted an analysis of the site, creating a study protocol that would allow the DOE to subjectively mitigate Native American site specific cultural resources for the benefit of the United States and profit of the nuclear industrial complex. The process was called

“cultural triage” that is defined as, “...a forced choice situation in which an ethnic group is faced with the decision to rank in importance equally valued cultural resources that could be affected by a proposed development project.” (Stoffle1990). The DOE created a systematic process to “mitigate” Native American living lifeways practiced since before the current era in what is genocide, a violation of 18 USC 1091, and the Human Rights Enforcement Act of 2009 (28 USC Section 509B). Secrecy of past radiological exposure of the Shoshone people by the proponent demonstrates intent to commit genocide against the Shoshone people. Involvement by Indian tribes created by the US under Title 25 superintendence of the Secretary of the Interior demonstrated that incompetent tribes cannot consent to be involved and that it is the US that is wholly responsible for the outcomes that result in the destruction of Indian people in whole or in part.

4.3.1.2.2.1 Radiological Impacts to Workers from Incident-Free Transportation of SNF

Interim Storage Partners has not appropriately evaluated doses and risks from shipments from the Consolidated Interim Storage Facility to the proposed repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada. The NRC proposed action fails to protect workers and vulnerable populations and is not protective of human health and the environment needed by those populations living lifeways as they exist.

4.3.1.2.2.5 Defueling

The NRC has failed to calculate the impact upon a vulnerable public that includes Native American tribes living close to the land, living lifestyles that include praying, cleansing, healing, hunting, fishing and gathering that is the identity of the people with the land potentially impacted by the proposed transportation shipments to the illegal Yucca Mountain site using culturally appropriate context for determining the likely reasonably maximally exposed individual living along transportation routes. The result is a disproportionate burden of risk that amounts to environmental racism, a form of nuclear colonialism that must be rejected.

5.7.2.1 Proposed CISF Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Every link in the nuclear chain emits green house gases. Mining, milling, fuel fabrication, nuclear generator construction and transportation of fuel to and defueling of a reactor to a repository. Placing the greenhouse gas emissions in an appropriate context of an ongoing existential threat is appropriate but NRC fails to consider a global affect of the proposed action.

8.3.2.1Economic and Other Costs

The NRC has not demonstrated quality assurance that in the event of a transportation accident that it can, at all, retrieve a dislodged cask off track or off-highway without exposure to the people and land where it may occur and instead affirms a no incident shipping campaign that is another inappropriate assumption.

NRC fails to conduct any further rigorous analysis of spent nuclear fuel incidents in transport that might protect indigenous people or forewarn of impact in any link of the proposed action by transportation of nuclear fuel.

Native American identity is the land and pure water, the cost of which, cannot be quantified if impacted or lost. We cannot assume, as NRC has done in this EIS, that there will be minimal or no impact to our living lifeways. The purpose of the Treaty of Ruby Valley is to ensure the existence of the Shoshone Nation as the supreme law of the land (US Const. Art 6, Sec. 2).

The Native Community Action Council reaffirms and recommends the NO-ACTION ALTERNATIVE and admonishes the NRC of its duty to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States that the Western Bands of the Shoshone Nation of Indians has, and continues to make great, for all Americans by the spirit and terms of the 1863 Treaty of Ruby Valley.

[Lorenda Sanchez Honored by Cal State University & California Indian Manpower Consortium](#)

The Hooding Ceremony took place yesterday in Sacramento, CA to confer the Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree to CIMC Executive Director Lorenda Sanchez. She is one of two 2020 recipients honored by the Trustees of the California State University. She received this degree for her exemplary contributions during her 45+ years of service to Indian and Native American communities.



[Sherman Ardoin](#)

Oldest bristlecone pine. Verified to be 4852 years old, in Inyo Nat Forest in Eastern California.



No location/info for second pic



Behold the Largest Congregation of Bald Eagles in the United States
Every November, hundreds if not thousands of the birds of prey gather in Haines, Alaska, to feast on salmon

https://www.smithsonianmag.com/travel/behold-americas-largest-congregation-bald-eagles-180976198/?utm_source=smithsoniandaily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20201103-daily-responsive&spMailingID=43828791&spUserID=OTYyNTc5MzkyMTQyS0&spJobID=1880239865&spReportId=MTg4MDIzOTg2NQs2



The area is home to about 500 residential eagles that attract visitors year-round, most especially in the fall when migrating birds up the count to historic highs of 3,000. (John Morrison/Getty Images)

"One of the penalties for refusing to participate in politics is that you end up being governed by your inferiors." — *Plato*

Someone struggled for your right to vote. Use it." — *Susan B. Anthony*

Bison Mummies Help Scientists Ruminates on Ancient Climate

November 2nd, 2020, 6:00AM / BY [Abigail Eisenstadt](#)



This mummified steppe bison was donated to the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History in the 1970s. Right now, museum audiences can see it online during a virtual tour. (Michelle Pinsdorf, Smithsonian)

Over 28,000 years ago, a steppe bison, *Bison priscus*, died in present-day Alaska. Its body was preserved by permafrost until scientists discovered it in 1951. The bison now rests in the [Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History](#), able to be seen by a [virtual tour](#) or in the "[David H. Koch Hall of Fossils - Deep Time](#)" when the museum reopens.

"It's one of the few relatively complete bison mummies from Alaska. Most of our better-preserved bison mummies come from Siberia," said [Dr. Advait Jukar](#), a paleontologist at Yale University and the museum's Department of Paleobiology.

But this specimen is more than a fascinating example of a now-extinct species. The bison, and other frozen mummies, hold valuable information for researchers who want to understand how biodiversity evolved and responded to climate change before the Anthropocene— a period defined by humans' impact on the biosphere and climate system — began.

"By studying mummies and fossils from periods prior to the Anthropocene, we can track how populations and ecosystems changed through time in the absence of outsized human impacts," said [Dr. Josh Miller](#), a paleoecologist at the University of Cincinnati who has worked with Jukar. "This allows us to think more critically about how we impact living populations and informs strategies for how we preserve species and ecosystems today."

How the steppe bison came to the Americas

Roughly 500,000 to 12,000 years ago, the steppe bison spread from Siberia to the Americas. They explored the North American continent as ice sheets ebbed and flowed during the late Pleistocene Epoch's last ice ages.

"Bison are actually relative newcomers to North America, having migrated across the Bering Land Bridge about 200,000 to 170,000 years ago. They came from Siberia and migrated southward into Alaska and Canada," said [Abby Kelly](#), a doctoral candidate and paleobiologist at the University of Cincinnati who works with Miller.

Where steppe bison migrated in North America depended on what regions were glacier-free. As each new ice age began, ice sheets would grow, blocking paths that once connected different bison populations from each other. Some of these fragmented communities gradually evolved over time into new species, like the now-extinct giant bison, *Bison latifrons*.

“We see that south of the glacial region and boreal forests, bison size increased into the giant long-horned bison. But these giant bison and steppe bison still bred together at some point. Then, miles of ice across Canada and the northern continental United States permanently separated the bison species. The giant bison eventually disappeared as smaller bison species evolved at the end of the Late Pleistocene,” said Kelly. The smallest bison species, *Bison bison bison*, still exists today.



The American bison, *Bison bison bison*, is a modern relative of the ancient steppe bison. Researchers can compare its DNA to ancient bison remains to learn more about its evolutionary history. (Connor Mallon, Smithsonian's National Zoo)
When the last ice age ended, steppe bison likely struggled to adapt to the rapidly changing climate and the arrival of modern humans. Though the species is now extinct, scientists can still use bison mummies to study its history.

Scientists love their mummies

Pleistocene mummies are a unique resource for paleobiologists who want to learn more about past animals' responses to environmental stress. This is because mummies usually have well-preserved tissue for sampling.

“A mummified steppe bison is an amazing snapshot of the animal. You get so much richer of an ecological summary,” said Kelly. For example, stomach samples from mummies can give valuable context clues about the animal's diet.

Mummified bison from permafrost regions like Alaska and Yukon also typically have well-preserved DNA, because the cold stops the decay process. Researchers are harnessing this DNA alongside tissue samples to trace ancient steppe bison's migration and gradual evolution.

“Frozen mummies preserve strands of ancient DNA that scientists can use to reconstruct the genomes of these animals. That DNA can let us understand ancient populations, including how they moved and dispersed across North America and Eurasia,” said Jukar.

It is important to see how steppe bison spread during the Pleistocene's last five ice ages, because that was a time of drastic climate change. Researching this ancient animal's history helps scientists understand how species have responded to environmental stress in the past and how they could react in the future.

Climate change may lead to more mummies



The mummified steppe bison is kept in a climate-controlled case that mimics the conditions from where it was found. Scientists used carbon dating to determine the bison is over 28,000 years old. (Smithsonian)

Present-day anthropogenic climate change is accelerating and, in turn, causing Alaskan, Yukon and Siberian permafrost to thaw faster. As permafrost thaws, scientists expect to unearth more preserved mummies.

“Because climate change is melting permafrost so quickly, a lot of these animals are coming out of melted muck,” said Jukar.

These mummies as well as the museum’s 40 million fossil specimens hold useful information about daily life and habitat change during the Pleistocene Epoch.

“Our collection has millions of specimens, which each hold a lot of data about how and where past animals lived. We want to get this data to the forefront so that we can learn more about the past, present, and future.” said Jukar.

Related Stories:

[What A 1000-Year-Old Seal Skull Can Say About Climate Change](#)

[Here's How Scientists Reconstruct Earth's Past Climates](#)

[Get to Know the Scientist Reconstructing Past Ocean Temperatures](#)

Abigail Eisenstadt is a Communications Assistant at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of Natural History. She brings science to the public via the museum's Office of Communications and Public Affairs, where she tracks media coverage, coordinates filming activities, and writes for the museum’s blog, Smithsonian Voices. Abigail received her master's in science journalism from Boston University. In her free time, she is either outdoors or in the kitchen.

[More From This Author »](#)

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/8515966448971/WN_zJ11jK9UR1aiobpvdRDboQ

Lee & Low is having a Zoom web talk Thursday November 12th at 4PM EST titled **A Discussion of Contemporary Native Children's Literature with Authors Traci Sorell and Carla Messinger**. Please share this with other people.

Wanishi (Thank you) Carla J S Messinger, Director, Native American Heritage Programs

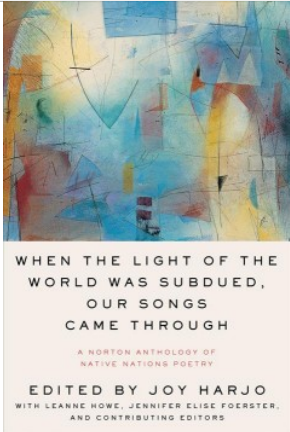
P: 610-434-6819

W: lenapeprograms.info, lenape.info

E: palenape@enter.net

Celebrating Native Culture & History! A Minority Woman Business – Pennsylvania & Delaware

MORE BOOKS

	<p><u><i>When the light of the world was subdued, our songs came through : a Norton anthology of Native nations poetry</i></u> by Joy Harjo</p> <p>United States Poet Laureate Joy Harjo gathers the work of more than 160 poets, representing nearly 100 indigenous nations, into the first historically comprehensive Native poetry anthology. This landmark anthology celebrates the indigenous peoples of North America, the first poets of this country, whose literary traditions stretch back centuries.</p>
--	---

[*Black sun*](#)

by Rebecca Roanhorse

A trilogy debut by the Nebula Award-winning author of *Star Wars: Resistance Reborn* is inspired by the civilizations of the Pre-Columbian Americas and follows the unbalancing of the holy city of Tova amid a fateful solstice eclipse. 75,000 first printing. Maps [Cherokee America](#)

by Margaret Verble

[*Cherokee America*](#)

by Margaret Verble

In the Spring of 1875 in the Cherokee Nation, Check, a wealthy farmer and mother of five boys, must protect her mixed-race family and tight-knit community at all costs when violence erupts. 25,000 first printing.

[*The night watchman : a novel*](#)

by Louise Erdrich

A historical novel based on the life of the National Book Award-winning author's grandfather traces the experiences of a Chippewa Council night watchman in mid-19th-century rural North Dakota who fights Congress to enforce Native American treaty rights. 150,000 first printing.

Tour