

## **TRIBAL ISSUES TOPIC GROUP MEETING SUMMARY JACKSONVILLE, FL JANUARY 20, 1999**

Mr. Kevin Blackwell (USDOT/FRA) updated the group on the status of the DOT response to DOE's inquiry about the tribal right to inspect rail shipments. The response was in the final stages of review in the General Counsel's office and is expected by July 1999.

The Group has added a representative from the NRC General Counsel's office, as a topic group member, to help keep abreast of developments in the NRC's upcoming draft rulemaking regarding tribes and advanced notification.

The group also discussed the research that has been conducted on the issue of developing a "umbrella grant" from DOE to states and tribes. Tribes concerns differ from State concerns because of disparities in available infrastructure to administer grants and funding equity issues. Several members recommended that DOE take a "lessons learned look" at how EPA grants to tribes have been administered.