

NRCREP - Uranium Recovery GEIS; Request for Extension of Time

From: "eric jantz" <ejantz@nmele.org>
 To: <nrcprep@nrc.gov>, <acc@nrc.gov>
 Date: 08/13/2007 3:49 PM
 Subject: Uranium Recovery GEIS; Request for Extension of Time
 CC: <srhc.chris@earthlink.net>, "Paul Robinson" <srhc paul@earthlink.net>, "joni arends"
 <jarends@nuclearactive.org>, <cmrklein@nrc.gov>, <jkr@nrc.gov>, <vai@nrc.gov>

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Gentlemen:

Please find attached, Southwest Research and Information Center's request for additional time in which to file written comments in the above matter. This request is also supported by Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Eric D. Jantz
 Staff Attorney
 New Mexico Environmental Law Center
 1405 Luisa Street, Suite 5
 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505
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SUNSI Review Complete
 Template = ASM-013

E-REDS = ASM-03
 All = J. Park (JRP)
 B. Von Till (RUV)

Mail Envelope Properties (46C0B5C5.098 : 2 : 4248)**Subject:** Uranium Recovery GEIS; Request for Extension of Time**Creation Date** Mon, Aug 13, 2007 3:48 PM**From:** "eric jantz" <ejantz@nmelc.org>**Created By:** ejantz@nmelc.org**Recipients**

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NRGWIA01.NRGWDO01

["cmrklein@nrc.gov"](mailto:cmrklein@nrc.gov) CC

August 13, 2007

Mr. Michael Lesar, Chief,
Rules Review and Directives Branch
Mr. Andrew Campbell
Mail Stop T-6D59
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Re: Uranium Recovery GEIS; Request for Extension of Comment Period

Dear Sirs:

On behalf of my client, Southwest Research and Information Center, and also on behalf of Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety, I would like to formally request an extension of at least ninety (90) days in which to submit written comments in the above matter. Currently, written comments are required to be submitted no later than September 4, 2007.

Because of the importance of the uranium recovery GEIS to the communities that will have to live with the consequences of in situ leach ("ISL") mining, an extension is warranted. Further, because of the technical issues that comments on the GEIS are likely to raise - for example, hydrogeological issues, radioactive air emissions issues, meteorological issues, and environmental justice issues - comprehensive comments cannot possibly be submitted by the current due date.

Moreover, the NRC should hold additional public hearings on the ISL GEIS if an extension of time is granted. Currently, the only public meetings that have been scheduled were in Casper, Wyoming and Albuquerque, New Mexico. Holding two public meetings in communities that will not be affected by ISL mining is woefully inadequate to gather meaningful public input on this important matter. At a minimum, public hearings should be held in the towns of Gallup, Grants, Crownpoint and Church Rock in New Mexico and relevant communities in Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, Texas, Nebraska, South Dakota and Arizona where new ISL mining is likely to occur.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Eric D. Jantz
Staff Attorney
New Mexico Environmental Law Center

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cc: Southwest Research and Information Center
Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety
Commissioner Dale Klein, Commission Chair
Commissioner Jeffery S. Merrifield
Commissioner Gregory Jaczko
Commissioner Peter Lyons