

**Crook County Land Use Planning & Zoning Commission**  
**P.O. Box 37**  
**Sundance, WY 82729**

August 24, 2007

Chief, Rules Review and Directives Branch  
Mail Stop T-6D59  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-001

7/24/07  
72FR 40344  
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2007 SEP -6 PM 3:31

RULES AND DIRECTIVES  
BRANCH  
INFO

RE: Scoping for Generic Environmental Impact Statement for Uranium Milling Facilities

Dear Chief:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments during the scoping period for the Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) for Uranium Milling Facilities.

We are concerned about potential negative impacts from proposed in-situ leach (ISL) uranium extraction operations, namely, impacts to our rural road system and to ground water quality in and around ISL mining operations.

Crook County, like most counties in Wyoming, has many rural county roads that are adequate for current uses, but inadequate for the increased heavy traffic that mining operations will bring to the area. Road damage and increased dust brought on by the increased traffic need to be addressed. Speed limits and dust control measures as well as upgrades to the roadways that will allow increased weight loads may be needed to improve the situation. We would like the company responsible for the ISL mining to also be made responsible for working with local governments to help minimize the adverse effects their operations may have on county resources.

Our primary area of concern is water quality in and around the area of ISL mining sites and processing facilities during and after the proposed activities. We believe that there should be another level of checks and balances added to the current monitoring system for ISL operations. We strongly recommend independent, third party monitoring of ground water quality in and around these sites, including the gathering of baseline data before operations commence. The area tested should be the greater of: a minimum of 5 miles from any site of mining operations or any area that uses as a water source the aquifer where mining is occurring. This procedure would go a long way in reassuring local residents of water quality being protected.

SONSI Review Complete  
Template = ADM-013

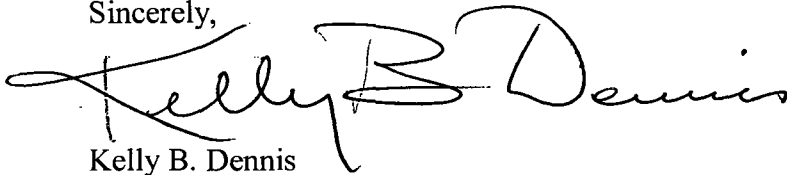
E-RIDS = ADM-03  
Add = J. Park (JRP)  
W. Vontell (WV)

We also support sufficient bonding requirements that will ensure complete and adequate restoration and/or reclamation of contaminated land and ground water resources, including contamination at the conclusion of ISL mining activity that is not detected until much later. Bonding amounts should be based on actual worst case scenarios or on 150% of the estimated cost of cleanup, whichever is greater.

We would like to be included on future correspondence concerning this GEIS as well as any site specific Environmental Assessments that may result from ISL mining in our area.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kelly B. Dennis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kelly" and last name "Dennis" clearly legible, and "B." as a middle initial.

Kelly B. Dennis  
Chair