

September 29, 2009

Ms. Krista Wenzel
Manager, Environment, Health and Safety
Cameco Resources
Smith Ranch-Highland Operation
P.O. Box 1210
Glenrock, WY 82637

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE REVIEW MINE UNIT B GROUNDWATER RESTORATION
COMPLETION REPORT, SOURCE MATERIAL LICENSE SUA-1548, DOCKET
NO. 40-8964 (TAC J00593)

Dear Ms. Wenzel

By letter dated June 26, 2009, Power Resources, Inc. (PRI), doing business as Cameco Resources, submitted its Mine Unit B Ground Water Restoration Report. The report contained supporting data and related historical documentation leading to approval of the restoration by the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (WDEQ) between 2004 and 2008. The report was made publicly available in the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Agency-wide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) on July 2, 2009.

NRC License SUA-1548, Condition 10.1.9.b, requires submittal of a wellfield completion report for NRC review and approval upon restoration completion for each wellfield. NRC staff has completed its acceptance review and determined that the report is not sufficiently complete, and is, therefore, unacceptable, for the purpose of conducting a detailed technical review.

NRC staff has identified two acceptance review issues in this completion report. First, the completion report indicates that monitor well M-42 was on excursion status during the stabilization period. Note that PRI has a license condition (LC 11.5) that requires monitoring of excursions on a weekly basis. NRC has not identified any records on this excursion since December 2004, and was not able to determine that this excursion was corrected (i.e., values below UCLs). In addition, the completion report does not appear to discuss the extent of the excursion outside of the monitor well ring. The NRC staff cannot evaluate the groundwater restoration completion report without this information. Second, the completion report appears to indicate that pumping activities were performed at several perimeters and overlying monitoring wells during the stability monitoring period. The NRC staff cannot evaluate the stability monitoring data without understanding the nature of these pumping activities. PRI should provide additional details on these two issues so the NRC staff can complete its acceptance review. Note that the NRC staff may identify additional issues during the full technical review.

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact me, either by telephone at (301) 415-0724, or by e-mail at douglas.mandeville@nrc.gov.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice", a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of ADAMS. ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

Sincerely,

/RA by Douglas Mandeville for/

Bill Von Till, Chief
Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch
Division of Waste Management
and Environmental Protection
Office of Federal and State Materials
and Environmental Management Programs

Docket No. 40-8964
License No. SUA-1548

cc: S. Ingle, WDEQ

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Sincerely,

Bill Von Till, Chief
Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch
Division of Waste Management
and Environmental Protection
Office of Federal and State Materials
and Environmental Management Programs

Docket No. 40-8964
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