



Department of Environmental Quality

To protect, conserve and enhance the quality of Wyoming's environment for the benefit of current and future generations.



Matthew H. Mead, Governor

Todd Parfitt, Director

January 7, 2013

Mr. Josh Leftwich
Cameco Resources, Inc.
550 North Poplar Street, Suite 100
Casper, WY 82601

RE: Ruth I.S.R. Project, Permit No. 631, Inspection Report

Dear Mr. Leftwich:

Enclosed is a copy of the inspection report of the Ruth I.S.R. Project. This inspection was conducted October 18, 2012.

A copy of this report will be placed in the permanent inspection file for Permit No. 631, along with any written comments you may have.

Please feel free to call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Mark Taylor
Program Principal

mt/

Attachment

cc: Cheyenne File w/attach.
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Mail Stop T-7J8, Washington, DC 20555-0001 w/attach.

631_Inspection_Report_Cover Letter_10_18_2012

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INSPECTION REPORT

COMPANY: Power Resources Inc.'s (dba Cameco Resources)
Ruth I.S.R. Project, Permit No. 631

DATE OF INPECTION: October 18, 2012

COMPANY REPRESENTATIVES: Jeanie Wolford, Amie Henderson & John McCarthy

LQD REPRESENTATIVES: Miles Bennett & Mark Taylor *mt*

Introduction

The Ruth I.S.R. Project was formerly a test uranium in situ leach (ISL) project operated by Uranerz, USA under Research and Development License No. 9. After completion of the test in situ leach (ISL) project the groundwater was restored to DEQ's and the NRC's satisfaction.

Uranerz applied for an expanded commercial-scale ISL mining permit encompassing the existing site plus several hundred additional acres for future mining. This permit application was approved December 26, 1990.

On March 5, 1991, Permit No. 631 was transferred to Pathfinder Mines Corporation (Pathfinder).

Pathfinder sold the property to Power Resources Incorporated (PRI) and Permit No. 631 was transferred to PRI on November 29, 2001.

Inspection

At this time the operation consists of two buildings: the plant building, and a small warehouse, along with two evaporation ponds, two topsoil stockpiles, and the access road. The well field wells were abandoned in January of 2000. There has been not activity on this project, which remained non-operational over the past year.

Plant Building

Externally, the plant building remains basically unchanged from previous years. The remains of a tiny wooden lean-to shed which collapsed several years remains partially attached to the northwest corner of the metal plant building.

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Monitoring Wells

Four (4) monitoring wells (i.e., 4M20, 8M20, 13-1M20 and 13-2M20) within the 631 permit area were examined during this inspection. Three of these wells (i.e., 8M20, 13-1M20 and 13-2M20) exhibited artesian conditions. One well (i.e., 8M20) may be being used by a local rancher.

Evaporation Ponds

The ponds contained small amounts of water. The NRC allowed discontinuation of monitoring the leak detection tubes beginning in 2005. No concerns were identified.

Topsoil Stockpiles

Inspection of the two topsoil stockpiles located next to the plant and pond areas found both were well-grassed and had the required topsoil identification signs.

Signs

A permit identification sign with the correct information was located near the plant building and next to the entrance gate. Topsoil identification signs are in place on the project's topsoil stockpiles.

Compliance

There are no outstanding violations at the Ruth Project. No enforcement action was taken as a result of this inspection.

mt/

Cc: Cheyenne File