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Docket: NRC-2011-0148

Strata Energy, Inc., Ross In-Situ Uranium Recovery Project, Crook County, Wyoming; Notice of Materials License Application, Opportunity to Request a Hearing and to Petition for Leave to Intervene, and Commission Order Imposing Procedures for Access to Sensitive Unclassified Non-Safeguards Information for Contention Preparation

Comment On: NRC-2011-0148-0007

Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Ross In-Situ Uranium Recovery Project in Crook County, Wyoming

Document: NRC-2011-0148-DRAFT-0016

Comment on FR Doc # 2013-07332

3/29/2013

73 FR 19332

Submitter Information

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General Comment

Please consider these comments regarding a draft EIS for a Strata Energy permit to mine uranium in Crook County, Wyoming, near Devil's Tower National Monument and Oshoto Reservoir.

The current draft is largely based on the "Generic" environmental impact statement prepared in 2009 to "streamline" NRC permitting and speed up the review process.

I ask that you stop using the Generic EIS and study the specific possible impacts to water, land, and air resources from uranium mining in Crook County.

Water

The proposed uranium mining area has over 5,000 abandoned drill. Strata Energy knows of at least 1,682 old exploration wells in the area, has located 759, and successfully plugged only 55.

At least 1,600 old wells could serve as conduits for water contamination from Strata's project.

The NRC's draft EIS acknowledges water contamination could result from "improperly plugged previous exploration drillholes that have not yet been properly abandoned. Water contamination is a huge risk. How do you "uncontaminate" radioactive water???

The proposed ISL process uses enormous amounts of water, which will draw down the aquifers that provide drinking water and water for livestock. This in an area already suffering from drought.

What are the consider the cumulative impacts to water quality and quantity from the full scope of Strata's whole project, which includes the Ross Project with an anticipated four additional projects in an approximately twenty mile area called the "Lance District" in Crook County.

SUNSI Review Complete

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Add= J. Moore (Jan 7)

Consider the track record of spills, excursions, pond leaks, and failed aquifer restoration at previous uranium mines in Wyoming, Nebraska, and Texas. Impacts of past uranium projects have been significant – with routine spills, leaks, and excursions of chemicals into adjacent aquifers. Not a single uranium project has fully restored an aquifer to pre-mining water quality.

Thank you

Cynthia Patterson
Atlanta, GA