

January 16, 2014

Ann Marshall Young, Chair
Administrative Judge
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel
Mail Stop T-3 F23
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dr. Richard F. Cole
Administrative Judge
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel
Mail Stop T-3 F23
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dr. Fred W. Oliver
Administrative Judge
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel
Mail Stop T-3 F23
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

In the Matter of
CROW BUTTE RESOURCES, INC.
(License Amendment for the North Trend Expansion Project)
Docket No. 40-8943; ASLBP No. 07-859-03-MLA-BD01

Dear Administrative Judges:

In its Order dated March 5, 2009, the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board ("Board") directed the NRC staff ("Staff") to tender each month a status report advising as to whether the estimated dates for issuance of the final Safety Evaluation Report ("SER") (predicted for the late summer of 2009) and the final environmental review document (predicted for December of 2009) have changed.¹ On July 26, 2013, the Staff informed the Board and the parties of the public availability of the SER. The SER can be accessed electronically via ADAMS Accession Number ML110820512.

As indicated in previous status reports, the Staff has decided to pursue a programmatic agreement in partial fulfillment of the Staff's obligations under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Due to the time needed to finalize the agreement, the Staff now expects to be able to issue the final environmental review document by the end of June 2014.

In keeping with the Board's mandate, the Staff will tender its next monthly status report by February 16, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

Signed (electronically) by
Marcia J. Simon
Counsel for the NRC Staff
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop O15-D21
Washington, DC 20555-0001
(301) 415-1261
marcia.simon@nrc.gov

Dated at Rockville, Maryland
This 16th day of January, 2014

cc: Attached Service List

¹ Order (Confirming Matters Addressed at March 4, 2009, Telephone Conference) at 1 (March 5, 2009).

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

In the Matter of)	
)	
CROW BUTTE RESOURCES, INC.)	Docket No. 40-8943
In-Situ Leach Facility, Crawford, Nebraska)	
)	ASLBP No. 07-859-03-MLA-BD01
(License Amendment for the North Trend)	
Expansion Project))	

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing "NRC STAFF'S LETTER TO THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD" in the above captioned proceeding have been served via the Electronic Information Exchange ("EIE"), the NRC's E-Filing System, this 16th day of January 2014, which to the best of my knowledge resulted in transmittal of the foregoing to those on the EIE Service List for the above captioned proceeding.

Signed (electronically) by

Marcia J. Simon
Counsel for the NRC Staff
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of the General Counsel
Mail Stop: O-15 D21
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001
(301) 415-1261
marcia.simon@nrc.gov