

FOIA/PA Number: 2014-0080

RECORDS BEING RELEASED IN THEIR  
ENTIRETY

B

## **Mandeville, Douglas**

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**From:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 22, 2013 9:25 AM  
**To:** Bill VonTill (Bill.VonTill@nrc.gov)  
**Cc:** Linda Gersey (Linda.Gersey@nrc.gov)  
**Subject:** Black Range and Ablation Technologies

Bill –

Just got a call from Pugsley asking if he and Tony can do a drop in next week with Drew, you, and me to talk about Black Range and Ablation Technologies. Black Range/Ablation contacted Chris and Tony.

Doug

## **Mandeville, Douglas**

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**From:** Spitzberg, Blair  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 22, 2013 1:34 PM  
**To:** Mandeville, Douglas; Gersey, Linda; VonTill, Bill  
**Subject:** RE: Black Range and Ablation Technologies

Sounds good Doug.

Linda – since I won't see you again before your trip, please acknowledge that you received this email.

Thanks - Blair

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**From:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 22, 2013 12:27 PM  
**To:** Gersey, Linda; VonTill, Bill  
**Cc:** Spitzberg, Blair  
**Subject:** RE: Black Range and Ablation Technologies

Blair, Linda, and Bill –

I talked with Bill and we think it's probably best that we hold off on a visit to Ablation Technologies/Black Range next week.

Now that their attorney has contacted us to discuss licensing and policy issues, we should hear what they have to say before making a visit.

We can re-group once we've had a chance to talk with them and decide at that point if a visit would be warranted.

Doug

---

**From:** Gersey, Linda  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 22, 2013 9:28 AM  
**To:** Mandeville, Douglas; VonTill, Bill  
**Cc:** Spitzberg, Blair  
**Subject:** RE: Black Range and Ablation Technologies

We should discuss if I still need to go out there next week.

---

**From:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 22, 2013 8:25 AM  
**To:** VonTill, Bill  
**Cc:** Gersey, Linda  
**Subject:** Black Range and Ablation Technologies

Bill –

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Doug

## **Mandeville, Douglas**

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**From:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 22, 2013 1:34 PM  
**To:** Bill VonTill (Bill.VonTill@nrc.gov)  
**Subject:** Talked with Pugsley

Let him know that I drop in request up to Drew and that we'd be back in touch once Drew made a decision.

Placeholder on Drew's calendar on Tuesday morning at 9. If he's not ready for a drop in yet, we can at least use that time to get Drew caught up to speed and explain what is going on. I can be available by phone on Tuesday for the call, if necessary.

Also sent separate email to Blair and Linda that we should hold off on the Ablation visit next week.

Doug

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Doug

## Mandeville, Douglas

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**From:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 22, 2013 10:27 AM  
**To:** Gersey, Linda; VonTill, Bill  
**Cc:** Spitzberg, Blair  
**Subject:** RE: Black Range and Ablation Technologies

All –

Path forward for Ablation Technologies/Black Range Minerals:

1. Send Drew and email about drop in request (already done)
2. Contact Pugsley and let him know Drew's schedule (not back in office until Monday, so earliest decision on a drop-in wouldn't occur before then. Also let Chris know that Drew will be gone on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday next week, will do this today)
3. Decide whether or not we should still try to visit Ablation in Casper next week (should decide today so Linda can plan appropriately)
4. Check with OGC on concurrence for letter back to citizen groups (I will do this today)

Doug

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Doug

## **Mandeville, Douglas**

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**From:** VonTill, Bill  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 22, 2013 9:43 AM  
**To:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**Cc:** Gersey, Linda; Castellon, Krupskaya  
**Subject:** RE: Black Range and Ablation Technologies

Drew would have to decide about the drop-in – please send him an email.

Thanks

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**From:** Mandeville, Douglas  
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## Mandeville, Douglas

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**From:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 22, 2013 9:37 AM  
**To:** Bill VonTill (Bill.VonTill@nrc.gov)  
**Subject:** RE: Black Range and Ablation Technologies

Chris indicated that Wednesday or Thursday would be best, but Drew is out after Tuesday. Had KC block some time on his calendar on Tuesday. Not sure what review/approval procedures are related to drop in visits.

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**From:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 22, 2013 9:25 AM  
**To:** Bill VonTill (Bill.VonTill@nrc.gov)  
**Cc:** Linda Gersey (Linda.Gersey@nrc.gov)  
**Subject:** Black Range and Ablation Technologies

Bill –

Just got a call from Pugsley asking if he and Tony can do a drop in next week with Drew, you, and me to talk about Black Range and Ablation Technologies. Black Range/Ablation contacted Chris and Tony.

Doug

## **Mandeville, Douglas**

---

**From:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**Sent:** Friday, August 23, 2013 11:00 AM  
**To:** Bill VonTill (Bill.VonTill@nrc.gov)  
**Subject:** Ablation/Black Range drop in

Bill –

No email response from Drew yet, so it is probably something worth mentioning to him on Monday morning.

I did call Chris back yesterday and told him I've passed the request up the chain and that we'd be back in touch once a decision has been made.

KC has kept the 9 am Tuesday slot blocked off on his calendar. If no decision on a drop in has been made yet, that would probably be a good time to get him up to speed. I can be available by phone, if necessary (call me at home).

Connected with Linda and she will not visit Ablation Technologies next week. We will re-group once we have talked with Chris and Tony.

Doug

## **Mandeville, Douglas**

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**From:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**Sent:** Friday, August 30, 2013 1:50 PM  
**To:** Persinko, Andrew  
**Subject:** RE: Background info for Pugsley meeting on Tuesday 9/3/13

I'll see if I can shake someone in OGC free.

---

**From:** Persinko, Andrew  
**Sent:** Friday, August 30, 2013 1:47 PM  
**To:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**Subject:** RE: Background info for Pugsley meeting on Tuesday 9/3/13

**How about a fill-in for Tracey OR better yet, can she call in??**

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**From:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**Sent:** Friday, August 30, 2013 1:41 PM  
**To:** Persinko, Andrew  
**Subject:** RE: Background info for Pugsley meeting on Tuesday 9/3/13

Drew –

I'm guessing the purpose of the drop in is to explain their current activities. We'll probably end up having a discussion about whether or not their activities constitute a licensable activity.

Dennis is planning on attending. Tracey is still up in Region I on her rotation and wouldn't be available.

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**From:** Persinko, Andrew  
**Sent:** Friday, August 30, 2013 1:36 PM  
**To:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**Subject:** RE: Background info for Pugsley meeting on Tuesday 9/3/13

Thanks, Doug.

**What is the purpose of the drop-in?**

**Do we have Sollenberger and OGC attending too? We should**

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**From:** Mandeville, Douglas  
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**To:** Persinko, Andrew  
**Cc:** VonTill, Bill; Sollenberger, Dennis  
**Subject:** Background info for Pugsley meeting on Tuesday 9/3/13

Drew –

Attached is some background information on Ablation Technologies and Black Range Minerals.

We've got a meeting scheduled for 10 am on Tuesday morning, Pugsley will be here for his drop in at 11 am.

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**Attachments:** Summary of Ablation Technologies.docx

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Attached is some background information on Ablation Technologies and Black Range Minerals.

We've got a meeting scheduled for 10 am on Tuesday morning, Pugsley will be here for his drop in at 11 am.

Doug

## **Mandeville, Douglas**

---

**From:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**Sent:** Friday, August 30, 2013 2:29 PM  
**To:** Bill VonTill (Bill.VonTill@nrc.gov)  
**Subject:** FW: Ablation Technologies and Black Range Minerals

FYI – Drew asked about having OGC at the drop in with Pugsley on Tuesday. Checked with both Tracey and David Cylkowski to see if either of them would be available (tracey would be limited to participation by phone only). Haven't heard back yet.

Doug

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**From:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**Sent:** Friday, August 30, 2013 2:02 PM  
**To:** Cylkowski, David  
**Cc:** Stokes, Tracey  
**Subject:** Ablation Technologies and Black Range Minerals

David and Tracey –

Chris Pugsley is coming in for a drop in on Tuesday 9/3/13 at 11 am to talk about Ablation Technologies and Black Range minerals. This is related to the letter I had you review earlier this week.

Would either of you be available to participate in the meeting (either in person or on the phone)? In talking with Drew today, we identified it would be worthwhile to have an OGC presence at the meeting.

I'm not sure exactly what Chris wants to talk about, but based on our earlier look at Ablation Technologies, it appears the process would require a source material license (at a minimum).

Bill and I have also scheduled a pre-meeting with Drew at 10 am on Tuesday – it may be helpful to listen in on that as well as we'll be getting Drew up to speed.

Sorry for the late notice – this drop in has kind of been pulled together on short notice.

Doug

## **Mandeville, Douglas**

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**From:** Sollenberger, Dennis  
**Sent:** Monday, September 09, 2013 11:38 AM  
**To:** Persinko, Andrew  
**Cc:** Mandeville, Douglas; VonTill, Bill  
**Subject:** FW: Meeting on the 17th

Drew:

I can support additional discussion but believe your division is in the lead role on this issue. Could someone with your staff contact OGC and Chris Pugsley to arrange the drop in? I do not want to become the spokesperson for this issue.

**Dennis M. Sollenberger**  
301-415-2819  
[dennis.sollenberger@nrc.gov](mailto:dennis.sollenberger@nrc.gov)

---

**From:** Chris Pugsley [<mailto:cpugsley@athompsonlaw.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 09, 2013 9:42 AM  
**To:** Sollenberger, Dennis  
**Subject:** Meeting on the 17th

Dennis:

Thank you for a spirited discussion last week. Would you and OGC have time on the 17<sup>th</sup> of next week to discuss ablation further? It would just be me. I have to be at White Flint anyway for a 4 hour meeting with Western Nuclear.

**Christopher S. Pugsley, Esq.**  
Partner  
Thompson & Pugsley, PLLC  
1225 19th Street, NW  
Suite 300  
Washington, DC 20036  
(202) 496-0780  
(fax) (202) 496-0783  
(cell) (202) 870-3387  
[cpugsley@athompsonlaw.com](mailto:cpugsley@athompsonlaw.com)

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## Mandeville, Douglas

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**From:** Sollenberger, Dennis  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 11, 2013 2:40 PM  
**To:** Persinko, Andrew  
**Cc:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**Subject:** FW: Meeting on the 17th

Drew:

Sorry I meant to cc on the original email.

Dennis

---

**From:** Sollenberger, Dennis  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 11, 2013 2:39 PM  
**To:** 'Chris Pugsley'  
**Subject:** RE: Meeting on the 17th

Chris:

Please work with Drew Persinko on any drop in on ablation. I am assisting DWMEP based on my historical knowledge in the UR area.

**Dennis M. Sollenberger**  
301-415-2819  
[dennis.sollenberger@nrc.gov](mailto:dennis.sollenberger@nrc.gov)

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**Christopher S. Pugsley, Esq.**  
Partner  
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1225 19th Street, NW  
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Washington, DC 20036  
(202) 496-0780  
(fax) (202) 496-0783  
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## **Mandeville, Douglas**

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**From:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**Sent:** Friday, August 30, 2013 3:41 PM  
**To:** Persinko, Andrew  
**Subject:** RE: Background info for Pugsley meeting on Tuesday 9/3/13

David Cylkowski can attend the 11 am meeting on Monday – he is filling in for Tracey while she is away.

---

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## Mandeville, Douglas

---

**From:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 05, 2013 9:59 AM  
**To:** Snyder, Amy  
**Subject:** Previous info on Ablation Technologies  
**Attachments:** RE: Letter inquiry - Wyoming facility; Summary of Ablation Technologies.docx

Amy –

See attached emails and information below for our previous NRC discussions related to Ablation and Black Range Minerals.

1. Black Range presentation at 2012 NMA meeting - <http://www.nrc.gov/materials/uranium-recovery/public-meetings/ur-workshops/grebb.pdf>
2. July 12, 2012 letter from Tallahassee Area Community asking for clarifications on regulatory status and differences in definitions between Colorado and NRC. - <https://adamsxt.nrc.gov/WorkplaceXT/getContent?id=release&vsId=%7B62FD0B6C-5483-4CC6-B5B4-DB5CC66FD2D2%7D&objectStoreName=Main. .Library&objectType=document>
3. August 8, 2012 letter from NRC to Tallahassee Area Community (response to July 12 letter) – directs questions about Black range and ablation to Colorado - <https://adamsxt.nrc.gov/WorkplaceXT/getContent?id=release&vsId=%7B86FD5A10-0705-4E63-BE7E-333541B43E3C%7D&objectStoreName=Main. .Library&objectType=document>
4. March 1, 2013 email/letter from Tallahassee Area Community to Chairman with additional questions about ablation process - <https://adamsxt.nrc.gov/WorkplaceXT/getContent?id=release&vsId=%7BBAE99E60-DF36-462C-A636-83A537F75859%7D&objectStoreName=Main. .Library&objectType=document>
5. March 20, 2012 letter from NRC to Tallahassee Area Community (response to March 1 email/letter) – we state that the ablation process would require a source material license at a minimum and that we were still evaluating if a milling license should be required. We also communicated the determination that the underground borehole mining process is mining - <https://adamsxt.nrc.gov/WorkplaceXT/getContent?id=release&vsId=%7BB714BA52-A330-49A3-BF63-11B5ECEC72C5%7D&objectStoreName=Main. .Library&objectType=document>
6. August 6, 2013 letter from J Thurston and INFORM Colorado - <https://adamsxt.nrc.gov/WorkplaceXT/getContent?id=release&vsId=%7B28E31C1D-4375-407F-864D-490613373B1B%7D&objectStoreName=Main. .Library&objectType=document>
7. August 13, 2013 email (followed up with certified letter) to Ablation Technologies - <https://adamsxt.nrc.gov/WorkplaceXT/getContent?id=release&vsId=%7BF1AB497F-50F2-4A0B-A57D-D6E33EAC2DCA%7D&objectStoreName=Main. .Library&objectType=document>
8. August 29, 2013 response to J. Thurston and INFORM Colorado - <https://adamsxt.nrc.gov/WorkplaceXT/getContent?id=release&vsId=%7B15AF8C18-6273-41BF-A1A7-A345F084D36F%7D&objectStoreName=Main. .Library&objectType=document>
9. September 24, 2013 – follow up email from J. Thurston - <https://adamsxt.nrc.gov/WorkplaceXT/getContent?id=release&vsId=%7B9EFEEB97-CCB2-4C78-8837-D06BDE7558E1%7D&objectStoreName=Main. .Library&objectType=document>



10. Drop ins with Puglsey occurred on 9/3/2013 and I think the second was on 9/23/2013 (not completely sure of the second drop in, but it was definitely before the shutdown)

## Mandeville, Douglas

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**From:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 06, 2013 11:06 AM  
**To:** Persinko, Andrew; Snyder, Amy; Spitzberg, Blair; Linda Gersey (Linda.Gersey@nrc.gov); Sollenberger, Dennis  
**Cc:** Bill VonTill (Bill.VonTill@nrc.gov); White, Duncan  
**Subject:** Path forward on questions related to Ablation/Black Range from Sarah Fields

All –

Just wanted to summarize where we stand on Ablation Technologies/Black Range Minerals:

1. Response letter to Sarah Fields – Doug is drafting a response, which will go through OGC concurrence
2. Based on our last discussion with Pugsley and Thompson, we were expecting a request to hold a public meeting to discuss licensing of the process in more detail. Haven't heard anything from Pugsley since that discussion. Have a message in with Pugsley to check on the status of that potential meeting
3. Depending on what we hear from Pugsley, we may craft a second letter to Ablation/Black Range, or consider sending someone out to see what they are actually doing
4. Dennis is setting up a call with Utah to ask a few questions:
  - a. What would a licensee have to do to reactivate the Shootaring Canyon license? What would be the timeframe necessary to complete such an action?
  - b. Can White Mesa receive concentrated uranium from the Ablation process under their current license? Would an amendment be necessary, or just notification? Has White Mesa asked to do this?

Doug

## Mandeville, Douglas

---

**From:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 13, 2013 8:40 AM  
**To:** White, Duncan  
**Cc:** Bill VonTill (Bill.VonTill@nrc.gov); Sollenberger, Dennis  
**Subject:** RE: Letter inquiry - Wyoming facility  
**Attachments:** ML13225A018.docx

Duncan –

Bill had me develop a response to the incoming letter and suggested that I include you on concurrence. Can you take a look at the attached and provide any comments? The link below contains relevant background information – our most recent correspondence to a citizens group in Colorado  
(<https://adamsxt.nrc.gov/WorkplaceXT/getContent?id=release&vsId=%7BB714BA52-A330-49A3-BF63-11B5ECEC72C5%7D&objectStoreName=Main.Library&objectType=document>)

FYI - At Blair's suggestion, we'll likely make an information gathering phone call with Ablation technologies.

Thanks for your help.

Doug

*- Done & P. OK to release*

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**From:** White, Duncan  
**Sent:** Friday, August 09, 2013 10:31 AM  
**To:** Mandeville, Douglas; VonTill, Bill; Sollenberger, Dennis  
**Cc:** Spitzberg, Blair  
**Subject:** RE: Letter inquiry - Wyoming facility

ASSW  
Doug:

I agree with your course of action. In addition, our Branch will keep the State of Colorado informed of our actions since CDPHE have also received inquiries from the Tallahassee Area Community about Black Range.

Duncan

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**From:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**Sent:** Friday, August 09, 2013 10:04 AM  
**To:** VonTill, Bill; Sollenberger, Dennis; White, Duncan  
**Cc:** Spitzberg, Blair  
**Subject:** RE: Letter inquiry - Wyoming facility

All –

I've taken a read through the August 6, 2013 letter and there are two questions the author has asked:

1. Has an application for source material processing been received to process ore from the NuVemco site?
2. Has the NRC issued a license for ablation or other ore processing facility in Wyoming to Ablation Technologies, Black Range, or another company?

Based on discussions with Dennis, Duncan, and Bill, the following course of action seems most appropriate:

1. Develop a response to the August 6 letter to address the two questions and that we are looking into the issue (working on this today, answer to both questions appears to be no – I haven't been able to identify anything in ADAMS indicating that we have received an application for source material processing or that we have issued a license for ablation or ore processing in Wyoming to Ablation Technologies, Black Range, or any other company)
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3. Confirm our position that the ablation process would require at a minimum a source material license. The line between ore beneficiation and milling is not a clear one and I don't know if we have reached a decision on that.

For your awareness, we have issued two responses to questions from the Tallahassee area community related to Black Range Minerals (see links below). I have not been able to locate any correspondence directly to Black Range or Ablation Technologies in ADAMS. However, Black Range did make a presentation at the 2012 NMA workshop and there has been some correspondence between the Tallahassee Area Community, NRC, and the state of Colorado about Black Range. Links to this information is provided below.

1. Black Range presentation at 2012 NMA meeting - <http://www.nrc.gov/materials/uranium-recovery/public-meetings/ur-workshops/grebb.pdf>
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4. March 1, 2013 email/letter from Tallahassee Area Community to Chairman with additional questions about ablation process - <https://adamsxt.nrc.gov/WorkplaceXT/getContent?id=release&vsId=%7BBAE99E60-DF36-462C-A636-83A537F75859%7D&objectStoreName=Main...Library&objectType=document>
5. March 20, 2012 letter from NRC to Tallahassee Area Community (response to March 1 email/letter) – we state that the ablation process would require a source material license at a minimum and that we were still evaluating if a milling license should be required. We also communicated the determination that the underground borehole mining process is mining - <https://adamsxt.nrc.gov/WorkplaceXT/getContent?id=release&vsId=%7BB714BA52-A330-49A3-BF63-11B5ECEC72C5%7D&objectStoreName=Main...Library&objectType=document>

Doug

*summary - DC  
to release*

**From:** VonTill, Bill  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 07, 2013 5:38 AM  
**To:** Sollenberger, Dennis; White, Duncan; Persinko, Andrew  
**Cc:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**Subject:** FW: Letter inquiry - Wyoming facility

Please see attached

**From:** Jennifer Thurston [<mailto:jennifer@informcolorado.org>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 06, 2013 6:35 PM

**To:** VonTill, Bill

**Cc:** Sarah Fields; Lee Alter; Shannon Anderson

**Subject:** Letter inquiry - Wyoming facility

INFORM  
Dear Mr Von Till,

I have attached a letter and two additional documents to this email for you.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Thank you,

Jennifer Thurston

Information Network for Responsible Mining

Cell: 212-473-7717

Email: [jennifer@informcolorado.org](mailto:jennifer@informcolorado.org)

Web: [www.informcolorado.org](http://www.informcolorado.org)

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/INFORMining>

## Mandeville, Douglas

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**From:** White, Duncan  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 13, 2013 9:00 AM  
**To:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**Cc:** VonTill, Bill; Sollenberger, Dennis  
**Subject:** Re: Letter inquiry - Wyoming facility

I'll look at it today and get back to you.

---

**From:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**To:** White, Duncan  
**Cc:** VonTill, Bill; Sollenberger, Dennis  
**Sent:** Tue Aug 13 08:39:44 2013  
**Subject:** RE: Letter inquiry - Wyoming facility

Duncan –

Bill had me develop a response to the incoming letter and suggested that I include you on concurrence. Can you take a look at the attached and provide any comments? The link below contains relevant background information – our most recent correspondence to a citizens group in Colorado  
(<https://adamsxt.nrc.gov/WorkplaceXT/getContent?id=release&vsId=%7BB714BA52-A330-49A3-BF63-11B5ECEC72C5%7D&objectStoreName=Main...Library&objectType=document>)

FYI - At Blair's suggestion, we'll likely make an information gathering phone call with Ablation technologies.

Thanks for your help.

Doug

*Daniel  
not to release*

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**From:** White, Duncan  
**Sent:** Friday, August 09, 2013 10:31 AM  
**To:** Mandeville, Douglas; VonTill, Bill; Sollenberger, Dennis  
**Cc:** Spitzberg, Blair  
**Subject:** RE: Letter inquiry - Wyoming facility

Doug:

I agree with your course of action. In addition, our Branch will keep the State of Colorado informed of our actions since CDPHE have also received inquiries from the Tallahassee Area Community about Black Range.

Duncan

---

**From:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**Sent:** Friday, August 09, 2013 10:04 AM  
**To:** VonTill, Bill; Sollenberger, Dennis; White, Duncan  
**Cc:** Spitzberg, Blair  
**Subject:** RE: Letter inquiry - Wyoming facility

All -

I've taken a read through the August 6, 2013 letter and there are two questions the author has asked:

1. Has an application for source material processing been received to process ore from the Nuvemco site?
2. Has the NRC issued a license for ablation or other ore processing facility in Wyoming to Ablation Technologies, Black Range, or another company?

Based on discussions with Dennis, Duncan, and Bill, the following course of action seems most appropriate:

1. Develop a response to the August 6 letter to address the two questions and that we are looking into the issue (working on this today, answer to both questions appears to be no - I haven't been able to identify anything in ADAMS indicating that we have received an application for source material processing or that we have issued a license for ablation or ore processing in Wyoming to Ablation Technologies, Black Range, or any other company)
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For your awareness, we have issued two responses to questions from the Tallahassee area community related to Black Range Minerals (see links below). I have not been able to locate any correspondence directly to Black Range or Ablation Technologies in ADAMS. However, Black Range did make a presentation at the 2012 NMA workshop and there has been some correspondence between the Tallahassee Area Community, NRC, and the state of Colorado about Black Range. Links to this information is provided below.

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Doug

DNMEP  
- OK to  
release

**From:** VonTill, Bill  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 07, 2013 5:38 AM  
**To:** Sollenberger, Dennis; White, Duncan; Persinko, Andrew  
**Cc:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**Subject:** FW: Letter inquiry - Wyoming facility

- DWMERP - OK  
10 release

Please see attached

**From:** Jennifer Thurston [<mailto:jennifer@informcolorado.org>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 06, 2013 6:35 PM  
**To:** VonTill, Bill  
**Cc:** Sarah Fields; Lee Alter; Shannon Anderson  
**Subject:** Letter inquiry - Wyoming facility

- inform

Dear Mr Von Till,

I have attached a letter and two additional documents to this email for you.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Thank you,

Jennifer Thurston  
Information Network for Responsible Mining  
Cell: 212-473-7717  
Email: [jennifer@informcolorado.org](mailto:jennifer@informcolorado.org)  
Web: [www.informcolorado.org](http://www.informcolorado.org)  
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/INFORMining>



## Mandeville, Douglas

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**From:** White, Duncan  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 13, 2013 1:44 PM  
**To:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**Cc:** VonTill, Bill; Sollenberger, Dennis  
**Subject:** RE: Letter inquiry - Wyoming facility

I left on Bill's chair a minor correction. You have my concurrence.

---

**From:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 13, 2013 8:40 AM  
**To:** White, Duncan  
**Cc:** VonTill, Bill; Sollenberger, Dennis  
**Subject:** RE: Letter inquiry - Wyoming facility

Duncan –

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FYI - At Blair's suggestion, we'll likely make an information gathering phone call with Ablation technologies.

Thanks for your help.

Doug

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*Duncan -  
OK to release*

**From:** White, Duncan  
**Sent:** Friday, August 09, 2013 10:31 AM  
**To:** Mandeville, Douglas; VonTill, Bill; Sollenberger, Dennis  
**Cc:** Spitzberg, Blair  
**Subject:** RE: Letter inquiry - Wyoming facility

Doug:

I agree with your course of action. In addition, our Branch will keep the State of Colorado informed of our actions since CDPHE have also received inquiries from the Tallahassee Area Community about Black Range.

Duncan

---

**From:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**Sent:** Friday, August 09, 2013 10:04 AM  
**To:** VonTill, Bill; Sollenberger, Dennis; White, Duncan  
**Cc:** Spitzberg, Blair  
**Subject:** RE: Letter inquiry - Wyoming facility

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Doug

DWM:EP  
- SK to  
review

**From:** VonTill, Bill  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 07, 2013 5:38 AM  
**To:** Sollenberger, Dennis; White, Duncan; Persinko, Andrew  
**Cc:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**Subject:** FW: Letter inquiry - Wyoming facility

Please see attached

**From:** Jennifer Thurston [<mailto:jennifer@informcolorado.org>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 06, 2013 6:35 PM  
**To:** VonTill, Bill  
**Cc:** Sarah Fields; Lee Alter; Shannon Anderson  
**Subject:** Letter inquiry - Wyoming facility

Dear Mr Von Till,

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Information Network for Responsible Mining  
Cell: 212-473-7717  
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Web: [www.informcolorado.org](http://www.informcolorado.org)  
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/INFORMining>

inform

## Mandeville, Douglas

---

**From:** White, Duncan  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 05, 2013 10:23 AM  
**To:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**Subject:** RE: Licensing of Ablation in Wyoming and Other States

We will let Utah and Colorado both know.

**From:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 05, 2013 10:00 AM  
**To:** White, Duncan  
**Subject:** RE: Licensing of Ablation in Wyoming and Other States

Thanks Duncan. I'll run a response past you to make sure we have any Agreement State discussion correct. Do we need to give the group in Utah a heads up?

Doug

**From:** White, Duncan  
**Sent:** Monday, November 04, 2013 5:34 PM  
**To:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**Subject:** Fw: Licensing of Ablation in Wyoming and Other States

**From:** White, Duncan  
**To:** 'Doug.Mandeville@nrc.gov' <Doug.Mandeville@nrc.gov>  
**Cc:** VonTill, Bill; Sollenberger, Dennis; Poy, Stephen  
**Sent:** Mon Nov 04 17:30:40 2013  
**Subject:** Re: Licensing of Ablation in Wyoming and Other States

Doug:

Let us know if we can provide any assistance with a response.

Duncan

MSSA

**From:** sarah@uraniumwatch.org <sarah@uraniumwatch.org>  
**To:** Doug.Mandeville@nrc.gov <Doug.Mandeville@nrc.gov>  
**Cc:** VonTill, Bill; White, Duncan  
**Sent:** Mon Nov 04 17:23:12 2013  
**Subject:** Licensing of Ablation in Wyoming and Other States

Dear Mr. Mandeville,

I have some questions regarding the NRC's licensing of a proposed Wyoming Ablation test processing where "ore" will be processed by Black Range Minerals Ltd. and Ablation Technologies LLC in Wyoming. Recent information on the BRM website

indicates that the company plans to process ore and produce a product of uranium (that is, source material) in licensable amounts. The company plans to process "ore" for its "source material" uranium content in a few weeks. That process will create a waste product, yet there is no satisfactory definition of that waste or a satisfactory waste disposal plan. Nor is there a surety, plans to protect the health and safety of the workers and the public, plans to protect the environment, or a NEPA review.

Yet, there is no evidence that the company planning this processing project has applied for and received a license from the NRC. Why, exactly, has this project been exempted from NRC Part 40 licensing? If it has not been exempted, when is the NRC going to take action? Is the NRC going to demand a license application after the fact? Why has the NRC not inspected this operation?

<http://www.blackrangeminerals.com/content/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/30-Oct-2013-Update-on-Commercialisation-of-Ablation-for-Recovery-of-Uranium-Mineralisation.pdf>

There is also the question as to whether this above-ground processing of ore primarily for its source material content constitutes uranium milling. Ablation licensing is still an unresolved issue. I do not see that the NRC has addressed the issues of Black Range Minerals' plans to process stockpiled ore for its source material content in Colorado and Utah.

<http://www.blackrangeminerals.com/content/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/30-Oct-2013-Update-on-Commercialisation-of-Ablation-for-Recovery-of-Uranium-Mineralisation.pdf>

The question of the processing of "ore" for its source material content via Ablation now involves operations or proposed operations in two states subject to NRC licensing (Wyoming and Arizona) and two NRC Agreement States (Utah and Colorado). There is no evidence of any NRC guidance on this issue or any NEPA analysis, specific regulations, or public review of any applicable guidance or regulations.

How long is the NRC going to delay a complete analysis of all aspects of Ablation technology and establish some kind of regulatory framework, with accompanying NEPA review and public input?

Sincerely,

Sarah Fields  
Program Director  
Uranium Watch  
PO Box 344  
Moab, Utah 84532  
435-259-9450

## Mandeville, Douglas

---

**From:** White, Duncan  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 07, 2013 8:00 AM  
**To:** Mandeville, Douglas; Persinko, Andrew; Snyder, Amy; Spitzberg, Blair; Gersey, Linda; Sollenberger, Dennis  
**Cc:** VonTill, Bill  
**Subject:** Re: Path forward on questions related to Ablation/Black Range from Sarah Fields

I have spoken to the CDPHE about Black Range. They indicated that Black Range has not recently pursued any additional work in the State.

---

**From:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**To:** Persinko, Andrew; Snyder, Amy; Spitzberg, Blair; Gersey, Linda; Sollenberger, Dennis  
**Cc:** VonTill, Bill; White, Duncan  
**Sent:** Wed Nov 06 11:06:22 2013  
**Subject:** Path forward on questions related to Ablation/Black Range from Sarah Fields

All –

Just wanted to summarize where we stand on Ablation Technologies/Black Range Minerals:

1. Response letter to Sarah Fields – Doug is drafting a response, which will go through OGC concurrence
2. Based on our last discussion with Pugsley and Thompson, we were expecting a request to hold a public meeting to discuss licensing of the process in more detail. Haven't heard anything from Pugsley since that discussion. Have a message in with Pugsley to check on the status of that potential meeting
3. Depending on what we hear from Pugsley, we may craft a second letter to Ablation/Black Range, or consider sending someone out to see what they are actually doing
4. Dennis is setting up a call with Utah to ask a few questions:
  - a. What would a licensee have to do to reactivate the Shootaring Canyon license? What would be the timeframe necessary to complete such an action?
  - b. Can White Mesa receive concentrated uranium from the Ablation process under their current license? Would an amendment be necessary, or just notification? Has White Mesa asked to do this?

✓ Doug

OK to Duncan  
re: Doug

## Mandeville, Douglas

---

**From:** Sollenberger, Dennis  
**Sent:** Monday, November 18, 2013 9:26 AM  
**To:** Persinko, Andrew; Stokes, Tracey; VonTill, Bill; Mandeville, Douglas  
**Subject:** RE: Ablation

The only days that I am available are Dec. 19 & 20.

**Dennis M. Sollenberger**  
301-415-2819  
[dennis.sollenberger@nrc.gov](mailto:dennis.sollenberger@nrc.gov)

---

**From:** Persinko, Andrew  
**Sent:** Monday, November 18, 2013 7:12 AM  
**To:** Sollenberger, Dennis; Stokes, Tracey; VonTill, Bill; Mandeville, Douglas  
**Subject:** Ablation

**Black Range wants to meet with us re ablation technologies. They are thinking sometime the week of Dec 9 or 16. What is your availability those weeks?**

**Drew Persinko**  
**415-7479**

*DWMP  
- OK  
to release*

## Mandeville, Douglas

---

**From:** Sollenberger, Dennis  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 19, 2013 5:35 PM  
**To:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**Cc:** White, Duncan  
**Subject:** RE: S. Fields letter

Sound good to me. You have ASPB concurrence on the letter.

Dennis M. Sollenberger  
301-415-2819  
[dennis.sollenberger@nrc.gov](mailto:dennis.sollenberger@nrc.gov)

**From:** Mandeville, Douglas  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 19, 2013 4:05 PM  
**To:** Sollenberger, Dennis  
**Subject:** S. Fields letter

Dennis –

Took a look back through my notes and ADAMS – for the certified letter to Ablation, we just printed out the email and put it in an envelope. I modified the sentence in the letter to sarah so it reads as follows:

We have communicated our position to Black Range and Ablation on August 13, 2013 via email and certified mail (see ADAMS Accession ML13227A070 and ML13323B444).

The first accession number is for the email, the second contains the proof of deliver for the certified mail.

Doug