

# Northwest Rural Public Power District

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August 17, 2015

Office of the Secretary  
Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Administrative Judge Michael M. Gibson, Chairman  
c/o Nicholas Sciretta & Sachin Desai, Law Clerks  
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel  
Mail Stop T-3F23  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

RE: License Renewal for the ISL Facility, Crawford, Nebraska

Dear Judge Gibson and Atomic Safety and Licensing Board,

In regard to the License Renewal for the In Situ Leach Facility, Crawford, Nebraska (Docket No. 40-8943) I would like to submit a written limited appearance statement on behalf of Northwest Rural Public Power District (NRPPD).

My name is Chance Briscoe. I am the General Manager of NRPPD. NRPPD is the local "non-profit" rural electric utility company that serves Cameco Resources (Crow Butte), along with the surrounding area in Dawes County, Nebraska. NRPPD has served Crow Butte for over 25 years. I have been with NRPPD since February, 2014 but in the rural electric utility business since 2003.

Shortly after starting at NRPPD I had an opportunity to visit with the management staff at Crow Butte. After the visit I was provided an opportunity for a tour of the facility. I was immediately impressed with the cleanliness of the operation and the culture of safety displayed. At no time did I feel uncomfortable or unsafe during the tour, which is a statement I cannot make for all industrial facilities I've been in. Russ Reichenberg, District Line Superintendent, states, "Our crews are educated and very comfortable working on new services and system maintenance within the complex. Safety issues have never been a problem." Crow Butte has always been receptive to hosting tours of Board members and staff when requested by NRPPD. This is a testament to the care shown by employees and management operating the facility.

Crow Butte is the largest individual customer of NRPPD. Crow Butte is approximately 25% of our entire electric load. If Crow Butte were not granted a license renewal and were forced to shut down operations all the remaining rural customers of the District in northwest Nebraska would be negatively impacted having to cover the lost margin contributed by Crow Butte. In addition to the direct margin contributed through their electric consumption the State of Nebraska would lose a significant contribution to state taxes.



NRPPD is a supporter of rural economic development. I believe the result of not granting the license renewal would be devastating to the town of Crawford, Nebraska and would hurt the rest of the surrounding area. The loss of quality jobs, housing effects, school enrollment, and tax revenue would be significant.

Thus, I support, as the Board of Directors of NRPPD has expressed in the past, the licensing of Crow Butte to continue operation of their Crawford, Nebraska facility.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Briscoe', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Chance Briscoe  
General Manager

Cc: Cameco Resources