

130 E. Centennial
Rapid City, SD 57701
August 19, 2015

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

RE: Crow Butte uranium mine – Crawford, Nebraska

Dear Judge Gibson:

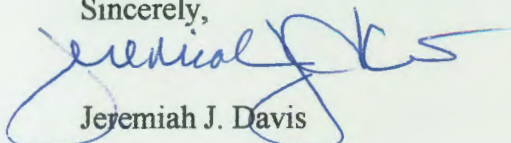
I have been a resident of South Dakota for over 40 years, and have been a practicing attorney in central and western South Dakota for the last 25 years. I write to express concerns about the renewed license for Crow Butte Energy Resources, which operates an in situ uranium mine near Crawford, Nebraska. I am also concern about Crow Butte's compliance with federal environmental law.

We live in a semi-arid part of the country where water resources are precious. Radiation from Crow Butte likely contaminates the White River, which flows through the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation and at least five counties in South Dakota. This water pollution threatens the health and lives of South Dakota residents as well as livestock. In situ uranium mining is an unproven technology which has not fully lived up to its claims in terms of public safety.

Specifically, Crow Butte should be cooperating with any students or independent entities who seek to test and measure potential contamination of soils and water in Dawes County, Nebraska, where their mine is located. If indeed there has been no migration of radioactive contaminants, then Crow Butte has nothing to hide. If the water table in Dawes County has been compromised, there is likely to be environmental contamination in South Dakota as well. Airborne contamination of nearby crops also needs to be measured and documented. When there have been wildfires on or near Crow Butte's property, the potential airborne contamination from these occurrences has also not been measured. As we consider Crow Butte's degree of compliance with the law, as well as the long-term impact of an in situ uranium mine in this reason, more research and information is needed on these specific points.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Jeremiah J. Davis



Jeremiah Davis
130 E Centennial St
Rapid City, SD 57701

RAPID CITY SD 577

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Office of the Secretary
Rulemakings & Adjudications Staff
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

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