



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 16, 2016

Mr. Mark Sattelberg, Field Supervisor  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Mountain-Prairie Region  
Wyoming Field Office  
5353 Yellowstone Road  
Cheyenne, WY 82009

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION REGARDING ENDANGERED OR  
THREATENED SPECIES AND CRITICAL HABITAT FOR THE PROPOSED  
LICENSE APPLICATION FOR THE KENDRICK EXPANSION IN SITU  
URANIUM RECOVERY PROJECT, STRATA ENERGY  
(DOCKET NO.: 040-09091)**

Dear Mr. Sattelberg:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) received a license amendment application from Strata Energy, Inc. (Strata) for its Source Materials License SUA-1601 to authorize Strata to expand its Ross In Situ Uranium Recovery Project to include the Kendrick expansion area located in Crook County, Wyoming. The proposed Kendrick expansion area consists of approximately 7,784 ac (3,186 ha) of primarily privately-owned land and is located in Oshoto, Wyoming (see Enclosure 1).

As part of the environmental review, the NRC staff is preparing a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) to the "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for In-Situ Leach Facilities (NUREG-1910)". This SEIS will be prepared in accordance with the regulatory provisions in Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 51, which implement the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

In accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, the SEIS would include an analysis of potential impacts to endangered or threatened species or critical habitat in the proposed project area. To support the environmental review, the NRC staff is requesting information from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to facilitate the identification of endangered or threatened species or critical habitat that may potentially be affected by the proposed Kendrick expansion. After reviewing all the information collected, the NRC staff will determine what additional actions are necessary to comply with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.

In December 2015, the NRC's contractor accessed FWS's ECOS-IPaC for an informal list of species. The results of that query are included as Enclosure 2. The GIS spatial description is as follows:

- T52N R67W Section 6
- T52N R68W Sections 1, 2, 11 and 12
- T53N R67W Sections 6, 7, 19, 30 and 31

- T53N R68W Sections 11, 12, 13, 14, 23, 24, 25, 26, 35 and 36

Additional information regarding the proposed project is available on the NRC's project webpage at: <http://nrcweb.nrc.gov:400/materials/uranium-recovery/license-apps/kendrick.html>. Information is also publicly available from the NRC's Agency Wide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). The ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room is accessible at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

The NRC staff is tentatively planning to conduct a site visit in mid-April 2016. Your office would be welcome to attend. If a representative from FWS is interested in attending the site visit, let us know and we will notify your office with more details once planning has been completed.

Please provide a list of any threatened or endangered species or critical habitat in the proposed project area as well as any other comments that you may have regarding this environmental review within 30 days of the receipt of this letter.

You may contact the Environmental Project Manager, Ms. Jessie Muir Quintero by telephone 301-415-7476, or via email at: [Jessie.Muir-Quintero@nrc.gov](mailto:Jessie.Muir-Quintero@nrc.gov). Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Lydia W. Chang, Branch Chief  
Environmental Review Branch  
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety, Safeguards,  
and Environmental Review  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No.: 40-9091

License No: SUA-1601

Enclosures:

1. Kendrick Proposed Area Map
2. Informal ECOS-IPaC Query Results

- T53N R68W Sections 11, 12, 13, 14, 23, 24, 25, 26, 35 and 36

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Sincerely,

Lydia W. Chang, Branch Chief  
Environmental Review Branch  
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety, Safeguards,  
and Environmental Review  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
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Docket No.: 40-9091  
License No: SUA-1601

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DISTRIBUTION:

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**ADAMS Accession Number: ML16055A282**

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DATE	02/26/2016	03/10/2016	03/10/2016	03/16/2016

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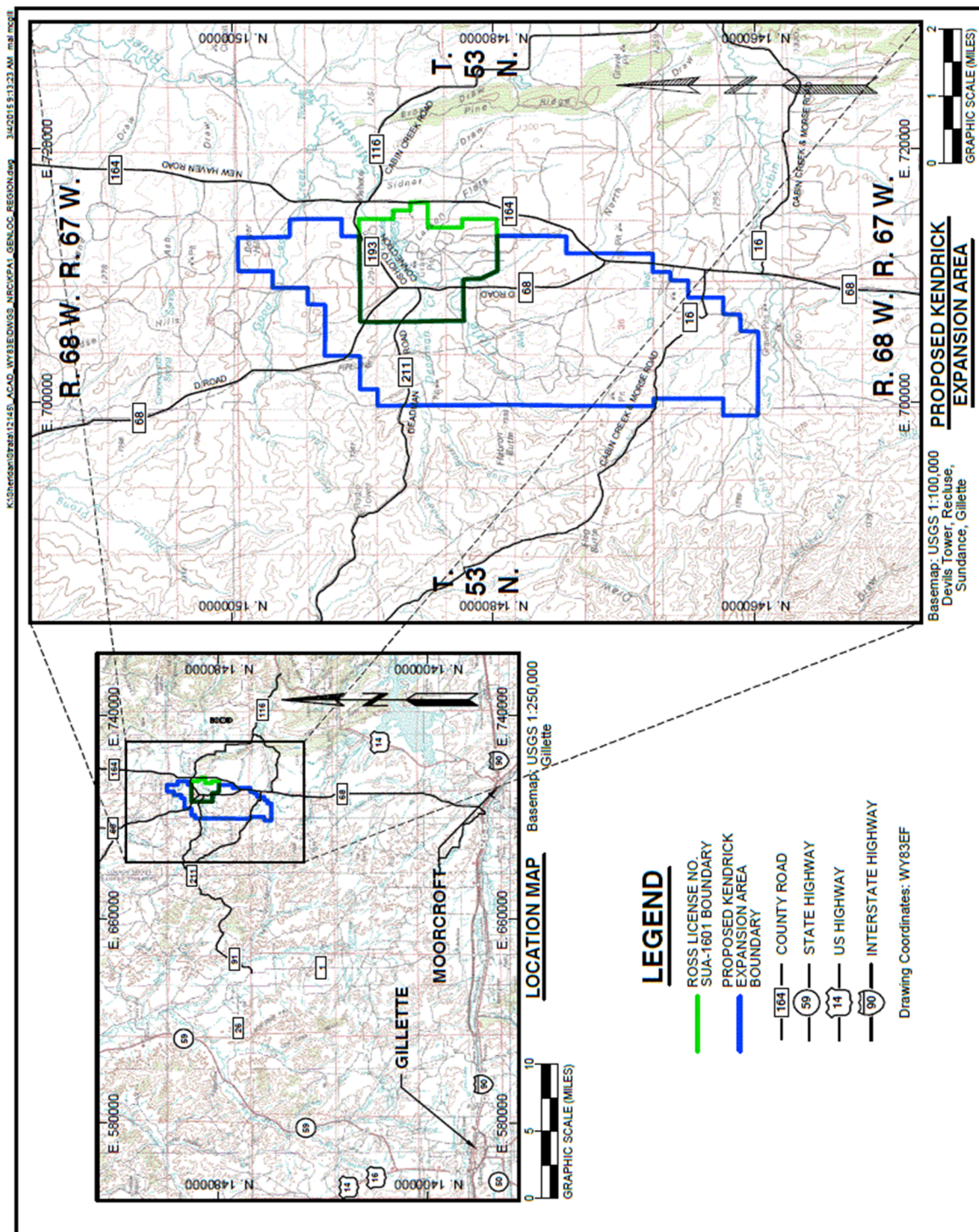


Figure 1.3-2. Proposed Kendrick Expansion Area.

### Kendrick Proposed Area Map

[Figure taken from the Strata Energy Environmental Report (pg 1-17).]