



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

December 15, 2017

Mr. Earl Howe, III, Chairman
Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
20 White Eagle Drive
Ponca City, OK 74601

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL
ASSESSMENT FOR THE MARSLAND IN SITU URANIUM RECOVERY
PROJECT LICENSE AMENDMENT APPLICATION
(DOCKET NUMBER: 40-8943)**

Dear Chairman Howe:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff is reviewing a request for an amendment to Source Materials License SUA-1534 that would authorize Crow Butte Resources, Inc. (the licensee) to construct and operate an in-situ uranium recovery satellite facility at the proposed Marsland Expansion Area in Dawes County, Nebraska.

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, the NRC staff has prepared a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) to document its environmental review of the amendment request. The draft EA includes a description of the proposed action and the affected environment, along with the NRC staff's preliminary determinations regarding the potential environmental impacts should the license amendment be granted.

The NRC staff is enclosing the draft EA on CD ROM for your review and comment. The draft EA can also be accessed online at: <https://www.nrc.gov/public-involve/doc-comment.html> or through the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management Systems (ADAMS) at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. The Accession Number for the draft EA is ML17334A870. Upon your request, the NRC staff will provide a paper copy of the draft EA for your review and comment.

Please provide any information, comments, or concerns you may have on the draft EA during the comment period, which ends on January 29, 2018. Comments can be submitted by:

- Email to CBRMarslandEA.Resource@nrc.gov,
- Online at <http://www.regulations.gov> under Docket ID NRC-2012-0281, or
- Mail to Ms. May Ma, Office of Administration, Mail Stop: OWFN-2-A13, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852 (include Docket ID NRC-2012-0281 in the subject line).

In addition, copies of the draft EA will be available at public libraries located at 601 2nd St., Crawford, NE, and 507 Bordeaux Street, Chadron, NE. The NRC staff will consider your comments when finalizing the EA.

E. Howe

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If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Ms. Jean Trefethen, Project Manager, by phone at 301-415-0867, or via e-mail at Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Brian W. Smith, Acting Director
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety, Safeguards,
and Environmental Review
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No.: 40-8943
License No.: SUA-1534

Enclosure:
Draft Environmental Assessment (CD ROM)

cc w/o enclosure:
Halona Cabe, THPO

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE MARSLAND IN SITU RECOVERY PROJECT LICENSE AMENDMENT APPLICATION
(DOCKET NUMBER-40-8943)

DATED: December 15, 2017

ADAMS Accession Number ML17346A781

OFFICE	FCSE/ERB	FCSE/ERB	FCSE/ERB	FCSE
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DATE	12/12/2017	12/12/2017	12/12/2017	12/15/2017

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