



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

August 8, 2018

Ms. Mary Hopkins
State Historic Preservation Officer
Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office
2301 Central Avenue
Cheyenne, WY 82002

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
FOR CAMECO RESOURCES PROPOSED LICENSE RENEWAL FOR THE
SMITH RANCH-HIGHLAND URANIUM PROJECT (SOURCE MATERIALS
LICENSE NUMBER; SUA-1548; DOCKET NUMBER 40-8964)

Dear Ms. Hopkins:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff is currently reviewing a license renewal request from Cameco Resources (Cameco) dated February 1, 2012 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession Number ML121590502). Cameco requested renewal of NRC Source Material License SUA-1548 to authorize continued uranium in situ recovery activities at the Smith Ranch-Highland Uranium Project (the Project). The Project includes the Smith Ranch, Highland, and Reynolds Ranch sites in Converse County, the Gas Hills remote satellite site in Fremont and Natrona Counties, the North Butte remote satellite site in Campbell County, and the Ruth remote satellite site in Johnson County, Wyoming.

The NRC staff has prepared a draft Environmental Assessment (draft EA) in accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 51, "Environmental Protection Regulations for Domestic Licensing and Related Regulatory Functions;" the NRC regulations that implement the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended. The purpose of the draft EA is to assess the potential environmental impacts of the requested license amendment and reasonable alternatives. The NRC staff concludes in the draft EA that approving the license renewal request would not significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

The NRC staff is also conducting a technical evaluation of Cameco's license renewal request pursuant to 10 CFR Part 40, "Domestic Licensing of Source Material," and 10 CFR Part 20, "Standards for Protection Against Radiation." The results of the technical evaluation will be documented in a separate Safety Evaluation Report.

Enclosed is a copy of the draft EA for review and comment by State personnel. The draft EA contains pre-decisional information; therefore, distribution and use of this document is limited to staff involved in the review and comment process only. A copy of this letter is also being sent to the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality Land Quality Division for review and comment. It is further requested that comments be provided to the NRC staff by August 31, 2018. The NRC staff will consider your timely comments and will revise the draft EA, as appropriate, before finalizing its environmental review.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Agency Rules of Practice and Procedure," a copy of this letter without the enclosure will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of the NRC's ADAMS. ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. James Park of my staff by telephone at (301) 415-6954 or via email at James.Park@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Cinthy I. Román, Chief
Environmental Review Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety, Safeguards
and Environmental Review
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No. 40-8964
License No. SUA-1548

Non-public Enclosure:
Draft Environmental Assessment

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
FOR CAMECO RESOURCES PROPOSED LICENSE RENEWAL FOR THE
SMITH RANCH-HIGHLAND URANIUM PROJECT (SOURCE MATERIALS
LICENSE NUMBER; SUA-1548; DOCKET NUMBER 40-8964)

DATED: August 8, 2018

DISTRIBUTION: FCSE r/f

ADAMS PACKAGE ACCESSION NUMBER: ML18215A054

***via email**

OFC	FCSE/ERB	FCSE/ERB	OGC	FCSE/ERB
NAME	JPark	AWalker-Smith	*SClark	CRomán
DATE	08/01/2018	08/ /2018	08/01/2018	08/08/2018

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY