

Crow Butte Resources, Inc.
ATTN: Mr. Stephen P. Collings, President
216 Sixteenth Street Mall, Suite 810
Denver, Colorado 80202

SUBJECT: ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF REQUEST FOR LICENSING ACTION - USE OF UPFLOW
ION EXCHANGE COLUMNS

Dear Mr. Collings:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission has completed the initial processing, which is an administrative review, of Crow Butte Resources, Inc.'s (CBR's) application for an amendment to NRC source material license SUA-1534, submitted by letter dated October 21, 1996. By this submittal, CBR requested authorization to operate at the approved processing flowrate of 5000 gallons per minute using only upflow ion exchange (IX) columns, rather than using the currently-approved mix of upflow and downflow IX columns.

During the initial processing of CBR's request, the NRC staff identified an omission or deficiency which makes the submittal unacceptable for the purpose of conducting a detailed technical review to further evaluate the proposed licensing action. This deficiency is as follows:

The results of an updated MILDOS-AREA calculation were not provided.

Please provide additional information to address the deficiencies identified above within 30 days from the date of this letter. In accordance with 10 CFR 2.108(a), failure to respond to this additional information request may be grounds for denial of the amendment application.

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact the NRC Project Manager, Mr. James Park, at (301) 415-6699.

Sincerely,

Joseph J. Holonich, Chief
Uranium Recovery Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

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

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