

American Nuclear Corporation Uranium Recovery Facility

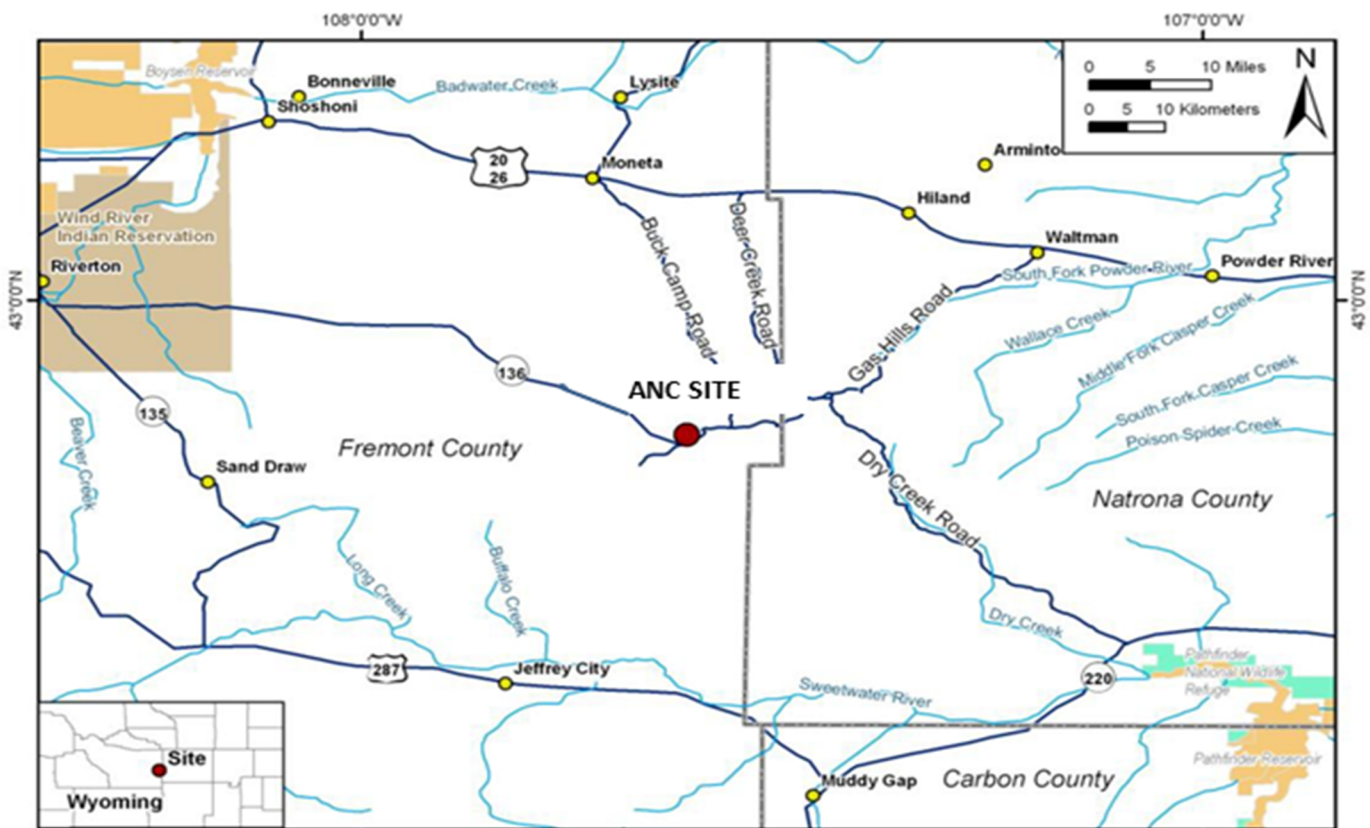
Site Location and Facility Description

The ANC site is located in the Gas Hills region in eastern Fremont County, Wyoming with the nearest population center (Riverton, Wyoming) approximately 45 miles (72.4 kilometers) west-northwest of the site. The site occupies approximately 550 acres (222 hectares). Two tailings impoundments, totaling approximately 120 acres (49 hectares), are located on the site. Some decommissioning and stabilization of the impoundments have been completed, but neither impoundment has been decommissioned to the requirements in Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 40, Appendix A.

Groundwater contamination, as a result of mill activities, is present on and off-site, however, it does not pose an immediate threat to public health and safety at this time due to ground water not a current source of drinking water in this area..

Facility Licensing and Operating History

The ANC operated a uranium mill on the site between 1959 and 1981. ANC suspended milling activities in 1981 due to poor uranium market conditions and began the decommissioning process. On May 9, 1994 ANC notified the NRC that it was ceasing operations and going out of business, which would forfeit its \$3.2 million (M) surety reclamation performance bond to the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (WDEQ). In July 1994, the WDEQ informed the NRC that it was prepared to undertake decommissioning of the site. In October 1996, the NRC issued a Confirmatory Order outlining the WDEQ's responsibilities for the decommissioning of the site, and the WDEQ conducted a limited decommissioning of the ANC site pursuant to the Order. Specifically, the WDEQ completed placement of an interim cover on Tailings Pond No.1, removed windblown tailings, and performed limited decommissioning and capping of Tailings Pond No. 2 and ground water monitoring.



American Nuclear Corporation Uranium Mill Site Location Map

Current Status

In May 2016, the WDEQ requested that the NRC revise the Confirmatory Order to redirect the WDEQ's efforts at the site from collecting ground water samples to temporarily stabilizing the site and providing surface diversions. Between May and September 2016, the NRC staff and WDEQ staff discussed the revision to the Confirmatory Order, and, by November 2016, both parties agreed on the terms of the revised Confirmatory Order. The NRC subsequently revised the Confirmatory Order in January 2017 directing the WDEQ to use the remaining decommissioning funds to stabilize those areas of the site that have deteriorated and to improve the tailings pile cover to prevent both additional recharge of contaminants to ground water and erosion. The WDEQ completed the majority of the interim stabilization activities at the site by late 2018 and anticipates completion of the final over-seeding of the site in Spring 2019. All funds from the forfeited surety bond have been exhausted by WDEQ in completing the interim stabilization activities.

Additional Information

For more information about the American Nuclear Corporation site, visit the NRC uranium recovery website at <http://www.nrc.gov/info-finder/materials/uranium/> or contact the NRC facility project manager, Dominick Orlando, at (301) 415-6749 or Dominick.orlando@nrc.gov
