



**Smith Ranch - Highland  
Uranium Project**  
P. O. Box 1210  
Glenrock, Wyoming USA 82637  
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May 25, 2007

Mr. Lowell Spackman, District 1 Supervisor  
Land Quality Division  
Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality  
Herschler Building  
122 West 25<sup>th</sup> Street  
Cheyenne, WY 82002

RE: Permit to Mine No. 603  
In Situ Uranium Wellfield Release Report

Dear Mr. Spackman:

As reported to Mr. Steve Ingle of Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (WDEQ), Land Quality Division, Mr. Joe Hunter of WDEQ, Water Quality Division and Mr. Paul Michalak, NRC Project Manager, via e-mail and/or phone May 22, 2007. Power Resources, Inc. (PRI) had a release of Injection Fluid at the Smith Ranch Uranium Project in Converse County, Wyoming. It is estimated that 700 gallons of injection fluid was released to the ground. The release was absorbed prior to recovery. The release was detected at approximately 0945, May 21, 2007 in Mine Unit-I by a Satellite Operator and reported to management at 1545. The fluids were released as a result of a Petcock Valve being left in the open position on well number I-19. The valve was closed when discovered by the operator. This incident will be discussed during Power Resources' next Spill Committee meeting to determine the appropriate corrective actions. The spill was located at injection well I-19 in Wellfield I. The solutions did not threaten nor enter the waters of the State. The known uranium content of the fluids was 1.2 ppm. The fluid is not considered hazardous material under RCRA, and is not reportable under SARA.

In accordance with Chapter IV, Section 4(a)(iv) of the Water Quality Division Rules and Regulations, attached is a report describing the release and the steps taken to prevent a recurrence of this nature.

Please call if me at (307) 358-6541 ext. 46 if you have any questions.



Sincerely,



John McCarthy  
Manager-Health, Safety  
& Environmental Affairs

Cc: Paul Michalak – NRC Project Manager      C. Foldenauer      M.D. Bryson  
C. Bull      File HUP 4.3.3.1      File SR 4.6.4.2      File SR 4.6.4.4  
B. Johnson      P. Drummond      Joe Hunter – Water Quality Division

## **Attachment**

### **Power Resources, Inc Smith Ranch-Highland Uranium Project URANIUM IN SITU WELLFIELD FLUID RELEASE REPORT**

#### **MU-I, I-19 Release**

##### **A. DESCRIPTION OF THE EVENT AND MITIGATIVE ACTIONS TAKEN**

On May 21, 2007 at approximately 09:45 A.M., a Satellite Operator discovered a leak at injection well I-19 in Wellfield I. The release resulted when a Petcock Valve was left in the open position. Upon discovery, the valve was closed by the operator.

An estimated 700 gallons of Injection Fluid was released and absorbed. The released fluid did not threaten nor enter waters of the state.

The uranium concentration of the fluid was 1.2 mg/l. The entire area will be reevaluated during the decommissioning of the wellfield to ensure that applicable decommissioning standards for soils are met. Although no adverse impacts are expected due to the small quantity of fluid involved, the small extent of the spill, and the low concentrations of uranium.

The release occurred in Mine Unit I and affected approximately 0.03 acres.

##### **B. CAUSE OF THE RELEASE AND THE STEPS TAKEN TO PREVENT RECURRENCE**

###### **Cause**

The cause was a Petcock valve left in the open position.

###### **Recurrence Prevention**

Our PRI Spill Committee will meet to discuss this spill and to recommend any corrective actions that could be taken to prevent future occurrences.