

April 9, 2008

Ms. Mary Hopkins
State Historic Preservation Officer
Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office
Department of State Parks
& Cultural Resources
2301 Central Avenue, Barrett Building
3rd Floor
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002

SUBJECT: INITIATION OF SECTION 106 PROCESS FOR ENERGY METALS
CORPORATION'S MOORE RANCH URANIUM RECOVERY PROJECT
LICENSE REQUEST (Docket 40-9073)

Dear Ms. Hopkins:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has received an application from Energy Metals Corporation for a new radioactive source materials license to develop and operate the Moore Ranch Uranium Recovery Project (an in-situ uranium recovery operation) located in Campbell County, WY. The proposed project will consist of injection/production wellfields, a central plant with ion exchange, resin unloading, elution, precipitation, and yellowcake drying capabilities, and deep injection disposal wells. The Moore Ranch Uranium Recovery Project is located in Township 42 North, Range 75 West, Sections 26, 27, 33, 34, 35, and 36, and Township 41 North, Range 75 West, Sections 1, 2, 3, and 4, and Township 42 North, Range 74 West, Section 31. Maps showing the boundaries of the Moore Ranch Uranium Recovery Project area are enclosed.

In-situ leach mining involves injecting a carbonate/bicarbonate leaching solution and oxidant into a subsurface uranium ore body to release the uranium and then pumping the uranium bearing solution to the surface for further processing to remove and concentrate the uranium.

Surface-disturbing activities associated with the proposed mining in the Moore Ranch Uranium Recovery Project area would involve, at a minimum (1) construction of a 11 acre central processing plant facility, (2) the laying of about 8000 linear feet of pipeline five feet below the ground surface to transport the leaching solution and the uranium-bearing solution; (3) drilling of multiple injection, production, and monitoring wells; and (4) construction of access roads as needed. The proposed total wellfield area to be used for injection and recovery of solution over the ten-year life of the project is approximately 150 acres.

As established in Title 10 Code of Federal Regulations Part 51 (10 CFR 51), the NRC regulation that implements the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, the NRC is preparing an environmental assessment (EA) for the proposed action that will tier off a Generic Environmental Impact Statement currently under development. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the EA will include an analysis of potential impacts to historic and cultural resources. To support the environmental review, the NRC is requesting information from the State Historical Preservation Officer to facilitate the identification of historic and cultural resources that may be affected by the Moore Ranch Uranium Recovery Project

license application. Any information you provide will be used to document effects in accordance with 36 CFR 800.8(c). After reviewing all the information collected, the NRC will follow up with your office regarding compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and the Section 106 consultation process.

The Moore Ranch Uranium Recovery Project license application is publicly available in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR) located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852, or from the NRC's Agency wide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). The ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room is accessible at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. The accession number for the application is ML072851222.

Please submit any comments concerning this environmental review by mail to the NRC Commission Attn: Mr. Gregory Suber, Mail Stop T-8F05, Washington, DC 20555 within 30 days of the receipt of this letter. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Behram Shroff of my staff by telephone at 301-415-0666 or by email at bps2@nrc.gov. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

/RA, by Allen Fetter for/

Gregory F. Suber, Branch Chief
Environmental Review Branch
Environmental Protection
and Performance Assessment Directorate
Division of Waste Management
and Environmental Protection
Office of Federal and State Materials
and Environmental Management Programs

Enclosure: Maps of Moore Ranch
Uranium Recovery Project

Docket No.: 40-9073

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OFFICE	EPPAD	EPPAD	EPPAD
NAME	BShroff	AWalker-Smith	GSuber /RA, by AFetter for/
DATE	03/25/08	04/08/08	04/09/08

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