

October 28, 2008

Ms. Joyce Whiting
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Natural Resources Department
P.O. Box 820
Pine Ridge, SD 57770

SUBJECT: INITIATION OF THE SECTION 106 PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED
NORTH TREND EXPANSION AREA LICENSE AMENDMENT, CROW BUTTE
RESOURCES, INC., CRAWFORD, NEBRASKA

Dear Ms Whiting:

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has received a request from Crow Butte Resources, Inc. (CBR) amend Source Materials License SUA-1534. CBR is located in Crawford, Nebraska and is licensed by the NRC to recover and process uranium by the *in-situ* leach extraction process. CBR has submitted an application to the NRC to develop a new satellite facility to the main CBR plant, which will be located in Sections 21, 22, 27, 28, 33, and 34 of Township 32 North, Range 52 West, Dawes County. The proposed development area is referred as the North Trend Expansion Area and its processing facility will be located approximately 6 miles northwest of the main CBR facility (see Enclosure 1).

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 (i.e., the addition of the North Trend Expansion Area). 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 Tribal Historical Preservation Officer to facilitate the identification of historic and cultural resources that may be affected by CBR's license amendment request. Any information you provide will be used to enhance the scope and quality of our review in accordance with 10 CFR 51 and 36 CFR 800. After reviewing all the information collected, the NRC will prepare a draft EA and will provide your office an opportunity to comment.

Per a telephone conversation between Stephen J. Cohen, NRC's Project Manager, and Elizabeth Lorina, Oglala Sioux Tribe's counsel, on September 15, 2008, attached is the location of the Indian camp discussed in CBR's North Trend application (Enclosure 1). This information is being released to you by authority of the State of Nebraska. This information should be considered privileged; therefore, it should not be released to the general public without consent of the Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office.

CBR's license applications are 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>.

J. Whiting

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The accession number for the license renewal application is ML073480267 and the accession number for the addition of the North Trend Expansion Area is ML072540671.

Please submit any comments/information that you may have regarding this environmental review 30 days after receipt, at U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Attn: Gregory Suber, Mail Stop T-8F05, Washington, DC, 20555.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mathews George of my staff by telephone at 301-415-7065 or by email at Mathews.George@nrc.gov. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Gregory F. Suber, 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

Docket No. 040-08943
License No. SUA-1534

Enclosure:
Crow Butte Resources Figure 1-1

cc: Elizabeth Lorina (Gonzalez Law Firm)

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Gregory F. Suber, Chief
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Division of Waste Management
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Office of Federal and State Materials
and Environmental Management Programs

Docket No. 040-08943
License No. SUA-1534

Enclosure:
Crow Butte Resources Figure 1-1

cc: Elizabeth Lorina (Gonzalez Law Firm)

ML082880684

OFC	EPPAD/ERB	EPPAD/ERB	EPPAD/ERB
NAME	AWalker-Smith	MGeorge:dm	GSuber
DATE	10/28/08	10/28/08	10/28/08

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