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Chief
Rules Review Branch
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington DC

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Salutations,

I am writing to express my concerns about the Generic Environmental Impact Statement proposal for in-situ mining. I live in Wyoming, in Crook County, and there is exploration on both the west and east sides of this county. It really concerns me that there is no oversight, no one checking to see what these companies are doing. I understand that Wyoming DEQ is supposedly responsible for doing this, but when we talk to DEQ they tell us "they are way understaffed". Now the EPA has passed their responsibility onto WY DEQ ? This means NO ONE is checking, not only to see what the companies are doing, but also, are they fulfilling the terms of the contracts they made with the landowners?

The problem is not = is this method of mining unsafe ? = the problem is those government agencies that we expect to protect us are not doing their jobs. So how do we know if the process is safe or not? Until the Nuclear Regulatory Commission requires governmental oversight of these exploration and mining companies there should not be a generic impact statement. Wyoming is too big of a State with too many differences in all corners of the State to just assume what is good for one area will be good for another. Its funny, the State of South Dakota has their version of a DEQ inspector on sight every day at the exploration going on in Edgemont. South Dakota has less money than Wyoming but this task is important enough to South Dakota government to do this. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has the power to make everyone involved in in-situ mining conduct business in the safest way possible. I expect the Commission to do this.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Whalen

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