

### Department of Environmental Quality



To protect, conserve and enhance the quality of Wyoming's environment for the benefit of current and future generations.

Dave Freudenthal, Governor

John Corra, Director

January 23, 2009

## CERTIFIED MAIL #7008 1140 0004 2414 0141 RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Ms. Krista Wenzel Manager-Health, Safety and Environmental Affairs Cameco Resources P.O. Box 1210 Glenrock, WY 82637

RE: Notice of Violation, Docket No. 4419-09

Cameco Resources (CR), Permit 603, Insitu Uranium Operation

Dear Ms. Wenzel:

Enclosed you will find a Notice of Violation issued under the provisions of Wyoming Statute § 35-11-701(c). The Notice of Violation is the result of a potential excursion in the C-Wellfield that was missed by CR staff for confirmation sampling. The event occurred on September 4, 2008 and was identified by LQD staff through review of the 2008 third quarter monitor well report on November 21, 2008.

In an effort to resolve this matter without further legal action, the LQD is requesting you contact Mr. Lowell Spackman, Land Quality Division (LQD), District I Supervisor at 307-777-7052 or at <a href="mailto:lspack@state.wy.us">lspack@state.wy.us</a> within fifteen (15) days of receipt of this letter to schedule a meeting to discuss resolution of this enforcement action. Should resolution of this enforcement action be reached as a result of this meeting, a Settlement of Agreement will be signed by both parties.

If you should have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Mr. Spackman at the above noted telephone number or Mr. Donald McKenzie, LQD Administrator, at (307)777-7046. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter.

Respectfully,

John V. Corra, Director

Department of Environmental Quality

Donald R. McKenzie, Administrator

Land Quality Division

Enclosure:

Notice of Violation

cc:

District 1

Herschler Building • 122 West 25th Street • Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002 • http://deq.state.wy.us



# DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY STATE OF WYOMING

#### NOTICE OF VIOLATION

IN THE MATTER OF THE NOTICE OF VIOLATION ISSUED TO CAMECO RESOURCES SMITH RANCH-HIGHLAND OPERATION P.O. BOX 1210 GLENROCK, WY 82637

**DOCKET NO. 4419-09** 

Re: Insitu Uranium Operation, Permit #603

#### **NOTICE**

#### NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT:

- 1. Notice of Violation is being sent to you pursuant to W.S. §35-11-701(c) which requires that a written notice shall be issued in the case of failure to correct or remedy an alleged violation specifying the provision of the act, rule, regulation, standard, permit, license, or variance alleged to be violated.
- 2. As a result of the Land Quality Division (LQD) investigation of the Highland Uranium Project (HUP) 2008 Third Quarter Monitoring Report on November 20, 2008, an excursion was discovered by LQD in sampling data reported on September 4, 2008. The report indicated well CM-14 had exceeded all upper control limit parameters during that sampling event.
- 3. According to the WEQA § 35-11-429 (a)(i), an operator is required to give verbal notice of an excursion as soon as practical after the excursion is confirmed. The Land Quality Division (LQD) Noncoal Rules and Regulations (R&R), Chapter 11, Section 12 (b) defines confirmation of an excursion as any detected excursion followed by a second or third repeat sample within 24 hours of the original detection which confirms the excursion. The R&R Chapter 11 Section 12 (c) requires the operator to verbally report any confirmed excursion within 24 hours of confirmation and submit a written report within five days of the confirmation, detailing the procedures for mitigating or controlling the excursion.
- 4. The HUP Mine Plan, Section 8.4 defines an excursion when any two of the three Upper Control Limit (UCL) parameters chloride, bicarbonate, and conductivity, are exceeded. It further states that a verification sample is taken within 24 hours of the determination that a sample has exceeded two of the three UCL values. The verification sample is split and analyzed in duplicate to assess analytical error.
- 5. CR failed to the conduct the confirmation sample for CM-14 within 24 hours of the original detection violating R&R Chapter 11, Section 12(b).
- 6. Wyoming Statute §35-11-901(a) provides that any person who violates any provision of the Environmental Quality Act or any rule, standard, permit, license or variance adopted hereunder is liable to a penalty of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) for each day of violation, which penalty may be recovered in a civil action brought by the Attorney General in the name of the People of the State of Wyoming.

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**NOTHING IN THIS NOTICE** shall be interpreted to in any way, limit or contravene any other remedy available under the Environmental Quality Act, nor shall this Order be interpreted as being a condition precedent to any other enforcement action.

SIGNED this day o	f January, 2009
Fam SelaM	Son el & My Luzie
Jøhn V. Corra	Donald R. McKenzie
Director	Administrator
Department of Environmental Quality	Land Quality Division

Please direct all inquiries regarding this Notice of Violation and Order to Mr. Lowell Spackman, Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, Land Quality Division, Cheyenne Office, 122 West 25<sup>th</sup> Street, Cheyenne, WY 82002, Telephone No. (307) 777-7052.

Cc: Lowell Spackman, District I File Docket # 4419-09 Doug Mandeville, NRC