August 14, 2009

Ann Marshall Young, Chair
Administrative Judge
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel
Mail Stop T-3 F23
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dr. Richard F. Cole
Administrative Judge
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel
Mail Stop T-3 F23
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dr. Fred W. Oliver
Administrative Judge
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel
Mail Stop T-3 F23
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

In the Matter of
CROW BUTTE RESOURCES, INC.
(License Amendment for the North Trend Expansion Project)
Docket No. 40-8943; ASLBP No. 07-859-03-MLA-BD01

Dear Administrative Judges:

In its Order dated March 5, 2009, the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board ("Board") directed the NRC staff ("Staff") to tender each month a status report advising as to whether the estimated dates for issuance of the final Safety Evaluation Report ("SER") (predicted for the late summer of 2009) and the final environmental review document (predicted for December of 2009) have changed.[1] Due to the time needed to resolve open issues in the internal draft SER and to clarify responses to the request for additional information, dated February 27, 2009, the Staff revised its expected date of issuance of the SER to mid-fall 2009. This estimate has not changed. The Staff's estimated date for the issuance of the final environmental review document has also not changed.

In keeping with the Board's mandate, the Staff will tender its next monthly status report by September 14, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

Executed in Accord with 10 CFR 2.304(d)
Christine Jochim Boote
Counsel for the NRC Staff
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop O15-D21
Washington, DC 20555-0001
(301) 415-2756
Christine.JochimBoote@nrc.gov

Dated at Rockville, Maryland
This 14th day of August, 2009

cc: Attached Service List

[1] Order (Confirming Matters Addressed at March 4, 2009, Telephone Conference), at 1 (March 5, 2009).

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

In the Matter of	)	
	)	
CROW BUTTE RESOURCES, INC.	)	Docket No. 40-8943
In-Situ Leach Facility, Crawford, Nebraska	)	
	)	ASLBP No. 07-859-03-MLA-BD01
(License Amendment for the North Trend	)	
Expansion Project)	)	

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing "NRC STAFF'S LETTER TO THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD" in the above captioned proceeding have been served via the Electronic Information Exchange ("EIE") this 14th day of August 2009, which to the best of my knowledge resulted in transmittal of the foregoing to those on the EIE Service List for the above captioned proceeding.

Executed in Accord with 10 CFR 2.304(d)

Christine Jochim Boote
Counsel for the NRC Staff
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of the General Counsel
Mail Stop: O15-D21
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001
(301) 415-2756
Christine.JochimBoote@nrc.gov