December 16, 2009

Michael M. Gibson, Chairman
Administrative Judge
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel
Mail Stop T-3 F23
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

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

Brian K. Hajek
Administrative Judge
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel
Mail Stop T-3 F23
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Alan S. Rosenthal
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 Renewal for the In Situ Leach Facility, Crawford, Nebraska)
Docket No. 40-8943; ASLBP No. 08-867-02-OLA-BD01

Dear Administrative Judges:

In its Order dated January 8, 2009, the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board ("Board") directed the NRC staff ("Staff"), commencing on January 15, 2009, to tender each month "a short report advising as to whether the estimated dates for issuance of the final [Safety Evaluation Report ('SER')] (predicted for summer/fall of 2009) and final [environmental review document] (predicted for December of 2009) have changed or become more definitive."[1] The Staff estimates that it will issue the final environmental review document by May 2010. The Staff expects to issue the SER by April 2010.

In keeping with the Board's mandate, the Staff will tender its next monthly status report by January 16, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

Executed in Accord with 10 CFR 2.304(d)
Brett Michael Patrick Klukan
Counsel for the NRC Staff
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop O15-D21
Washington, DC 20555-0001
(301) 415-3629
Brett.Klukan@NRC.gov

Dated at Rockville, Maryland
This 16th day of December, 2009

cc: Attached Service List

[1] Order (Initial Scheduling Order), at 4-5 (Jan. 8, 2009).

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

In the Matter of	)	
	)	
CROW BUTTE RESOURCES, INC.	)	Docket Nos. 40-8943
	)	
(License Renewal for the In Situ Leach Facility, Crawford, Nebraska)	)	ASLBP No. 08-867-08-OLA-BD01

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 16th day of December 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)

Brett Michael Patrick Klukan
Counsel for the NRC Staff
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of the General Counsel
Mail Stop: O-15 D21
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001
(301) 415-3629
Brett.Klukan@nrc.gov