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ENCOURAGING RESPONSIBLE DEVELOPMENT TODAY ~ FOR TOMORROW



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POWDER RIVER BASIN
Resource Council

Via Electronic and First-Class Mail

January 20, 2010

Michael Lesar, Chief, Rulemaking and Directives Branch
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop TWB-05-B01
Washington, DC 20555-0001

12/11/09
74FR 65806
74FR 65808
74FR 65804

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RE: Request for extension of public comment period for Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statements for the Nichols Ranch, Moore Ranch, and Lost Creek ISL Uranium Facilities in Wyoming

Dear Chief Lesar,

On behalf of our members in Wyoming, the Powder River Basin Resource Council (PRBRC) requests an extension of the public comment period for the draft environmental impact statements (DEISs) for the Nichols Ranch, Moore Ranch, and Lost Creek in-situ leach (ISL) uranium facilities. PRBRC members live, work, and recreate near each of these facilities and may be significantly impacted by their construction and operation.

A substantial extension of the comment period is necessary to allow our organization, our members, and other members of the general public to review the lengthy documents and references included in those documents. An extension will allow us to better contribute to the process through the submission of substantive comments.

While the NRC may believe it is being generous by granting a 51 day comment period, since many of those days were during the holiday season, the actual time available to the public to review, research, and analyze the documents has been much shorter than that and has thus been insufficient.

We understand that other organizations have asked the NRC for an extension and we urge the NRC to consider those requests in addition to our own.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this request,

Shannon Anderson
Organizer, Powder River Basin Resource Council

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Add = B. Shroff (BFS2)
F. Yu (FYU2)
A. Borsensen (Abb5)
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W. Ford (WAF) P. Swain (PBS2)