

Summary of Teleconference

Date: Sep 9, 2009

Time: 11:00 am EDT (9:00 am MDT)

Subject: NEPA Issues with Uranium Recovery

Participants: NRC and BLM

Pete Sokolosky – BLM (State)	Larry ___?___ - BLM (Rawlins)
Ed Heffem – BLM (State)	Mark Newman – BLM (Rawlins)
Brenda Neumann – BLM (State)	Theresa ___?___ - BLM (Rawlins)
Janet Kurman – BLM (State)	Beth Holden – BLM (Rawlins)
Kristen ___?___ - BLM (Lander)	Tom Bills – BLM (Buffalo)
James ___?___ - BLM (Newcastle)	Melanie ___?___ - BLM (Buffalo)
	Harry ___?___ - BLM (Buffalo)
Patty Bubar – NRC HQ	
Andrea Kock – NRC HQ	
Alan Bjornsen – NRC HQ	

1. NRC/BLM MOU

- BLM FO wondered how detailed the MOU was going to be
- No details – merely a framework
- Details are to be worked out between NRC PMs and BLM POCs
- It is close to being signed
- Coordination will be accomplished through the State Office

2. JAB and Antelope Project

- BLM received a POO (only for exploration)
- Information in POO is insufficient for BLM needs
- BLM believes project will require an EIS
- BLM wants to work w/NRC and use its SEIS
- BLM requires more 'surface' information in developing its NEPA documents than NRC
- BLM has information to share with NRC on many of our environmental resource areas.
- BLM wants to receive copies of SEIS sections as they are written
- Project, currently, is not high on BLM's list of priorities (#16 of 17)

3. Cooperating Agency Status

- BLM and NRC have differing Purpose and Need statements
- BLM and NRC each arrive at different decisions
- BLM and NRC have differing information requirements
- A facility cannot begin to construct/operate without BLM approval (even though an NRC license may be issued)
- Currently, BLM sends out letters soliciting cooperating agency status when an NOI appears in the FR

4. Nichols Ranch

- Buffalo FO received a POO – just beginning its review

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- Buffalo has issues w/NRC's Section 106 process
 - Buffalo has offered to help NRC w/Sec 106
 - Main concern is the Pumpkin Buttes
5. Moore Ranch
- No BLM surface estate
 - BLM suggests cooperating with the Forest Service
6. Lost Creek
- Rawlins FO rejected LCI's request for exemption
 - Rawlins sent a letter to LCI requesting a POO for the full-blown project (no response, yet)
 - WYDEQ has submitted technical comments on the exemption request
7. Recent Developments
- Lander FO indicated that on their (FO) website are a number of new NEPA documents
8. Other Issues
- BLM offers to help NRC on its consultation (Sec. 106 NHPA, Sec 7 ESA)
 - All future (new) BLM coordination should begin with the State Office (act as 'broker')
 - When submitting documents for BLM to review, either keep it under 5mb (if sending electronically), or send a CD
 - Some of the WY FOs are short on resources (e.g., Lander)
 - Lander's web page lists a number of new oil & gas projects
 - FRNs for NOIs are 'triggers' for BLM to issue cooperating agency request letters
 - In the future, when NRC intends to publish an FRN, it will notify the BLM in advance
 - Both NRC and BLM will update the uranium recovery spreadsheet
9. Next NRC/BLM conference call would be in approx 90 days (on, or about. Dec 9, 2009) – Alan to arrange the particulars