

# 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

CERTIFIED MAIL, RETURN RECEIPT NO. 7009 1410 0000 9032 9920

September 1, 2010

Mr. Jon Winters  
Uranium One, USA  
Suite 260  
907 N. Poplar Street  
Casper, WY 82601

**RE: Irigaray-Christensen Ranch, Permit No. 478, Monitor Well 5MW66**

Dear Mr. Winters:

I have reviewed your August 13, 2010, letter concerning Christensen Ranch 5MW66 along with other information. Your letter was sent in part as a response to my letter of March 18, 2010, which noted the long-standing excursion in this monitor well and requested continued sampling and a plan and compliance schedule.

Your letter noted that additional sampling had been performed, and 5MW66 has been returned to excursion status with the weekly sampling and monthly reporting carried out. Your letter also stated that sampling has been performed on a number of wells in the vicinity of 5MW66 toward locating the source of the contaminated groundwater.

However, it has been five months since my letter asking for a compliance schedule, and to date, the Land Quality Division has received neither a schedule nor any active action toward excursion control. In our telephone conversation on August 26, 2010, you stated that additional sampling was planned for the week of August 29, 2010. That is good and I certainly don't want to discourage the gathering of additional information.

However, I must point to the draconian measures spelled out in Land Quality NonCoal Rules and Regulations, Chapter 11, Section 12(d)(ii) which allow the Administrator (with the concurrence of the Director) to terminate the mining operation, revoke the permit, or modify the mining operation and the mining permit if an excursion has not been controlled in 60 days.

Since this excursion has been on-going for years, it does not seem unreasonable for the Division to require swift and decisive actions to bring this excursion under control.

*NMS501*  
*MJC*  
*9/1/10*



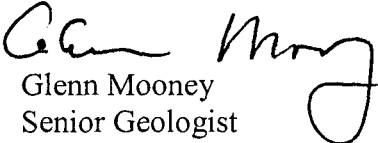
**Uranium One, USA**  
**Irigaray Christensen Ranch ISL Operations**  
**Permit No. 478**  
**September 1, 2010**  
**Page 2**

Accordingly, please present within ten (10) days a schedule for actively bringing this excursion under control.

As you recall, I have called your attention to the fact that the original Well Field Data Package in the Hydrologic Summary section, page 4, identified 5MW66 as the well "most directly down gradient from, and to have the largest gradient away from, the well field." For this reason, 5MW66 was the well used in the computer model to confirm the retrieval of an excursion within the required sixty days. This indicates information already exists to show which wells, or at least the locations of those wells, when pumped, would have the earliest desired effect in controlling the excursion.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Mark Taylor.

Sincerely,

  
Glenn Mooney  
Senior Geologist

\gm

Enclosure

Cc: Cheyenne File  
NRC-MD

478MW5WM66letA.10gm