

Meeting with BLM & WY DEQ  
Regarding Uranium Recovery Applications  
and Agency Environmental Review Processes

June 24, 2009

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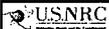
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### Purposes of Meeting

- Increase level of understanding of each agency with respect to jurisdiction/authority and environmental review processes
- Identify overlaps in each agency's reviews
- Establish better communication between agencies with respect to review schedules and issues identified during review

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### Agenda

- NRC authority & review process
- BLM authority & review process
- Status of NRC/BLM MOU
- WY DEQ authority & review process
- Status of uranium recovery (UR) applications, draft MOU with BLM
- Open discussion

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**USNRC**

## NRC Roles & Responsibilities

- NRC is an independent agency
- Mission: protect public health and safety and environment, promote common defense and security
- Has responsibility along with Agreement States for licensing commercial use of nuclear materials
- Openness and soliciting comments on our actions is one of our core values

*no political direction*

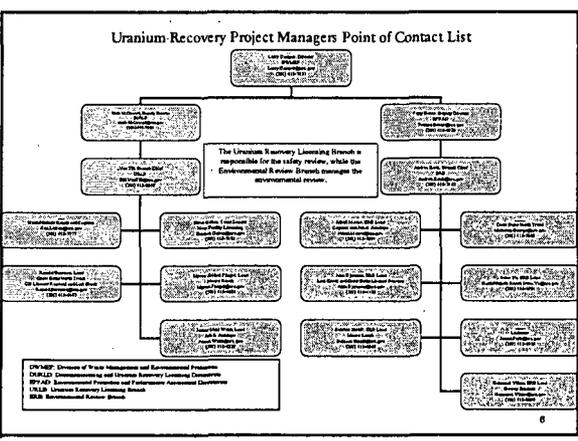
*Commissioners make day-to-day decisions*

*not for nuclear power plants*

**USNRC**

## NRC's Licensing Review Process

- Licensing application submitted for review
- Review conducted in two steps:
  - Acceptance review
  - Detailed review
- Detailed review composed of two parts:
  - Site-specific safety review
  - Site-specific environmental review





**USNRC**

### Types of UR NEPA Documents

- New ISL applications – Supplemental Environmental Impact Statements (SEISs) tiered from the ISL Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS)
- License renewals, expansions and amendments – Environmental Assessments (EAs)/Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)
- Conventional milling/heap leach applications – stand-alone EISs

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**USNRC**

### Sources of Information for Site-Specific Environmental Review

- Applicant's environmental report
- Other relevant information/ data
- ISL GEIS
  - Evaluate site-specific information to determine if applicant's proposed action and site characteristics are within the bounds of the GEIS
  - Determine which sections to be incorporated by reference into site-specific review and which sections need further analysis

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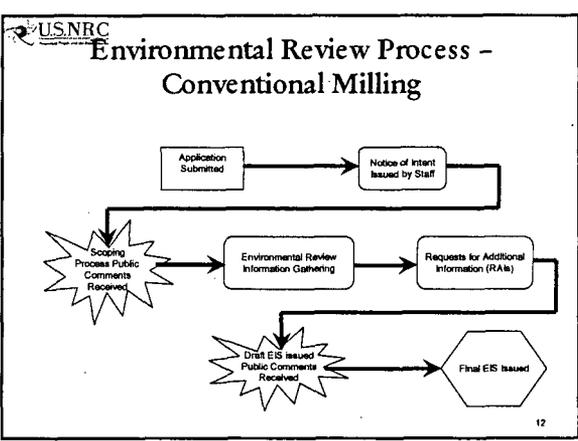
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## Status of Existing UR Operations

- Operating
  - Smith Ranch (ISR)
  - Highlands (ISR)
  - Christiansen Ranch (ISR)
  - Crow Butte, NE (ISR)
- Decommissioning
  - Lucky Me (Conventional)
  - ANC (Conventional)
  - Gas Hills (Conventional)
  - Split Rock (Conventional)
  - Shirley Basin (Conventional)
  - Bear Creek (Conventional)
- Standby
  - Sweetwater (Conventional)

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## BLM Authority

- Jurisdiction
- Structure
- Review process

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## WY DEQ Authority

- Jurisdiction
- Structure
- Review Process

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## Open Discussion

- Overlaps in each agency's review
- Touch points in schedule for interagency communication
- Timing of document sharing and comment review
- Agency points of contact

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