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**Remsburg, Kristy**

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**From:** Kock, Andrea *ESMAF*  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2009 2:48 PM  
**To:** Olmstead, Joan  
**Cc:** Park, James; Wu, Irene; Bjornsen, Alan  
**Subject:** Presentation at NMA on BLM MOU  
**Attachments:** NMApres.ppt

Joan: I wanted you to be aware of the content of a presentation that I am giving at NMA on the MOU we are developing with BLM. The slides are due today so I will not be able to incorporate comments. However, I thought you should be aware of the content of my presentation. Please let me know if there are significant issues with the presentation content from OGC's perspective and I can tailor my talking points accordingly.

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# NRC Coordination with Federal Agencies on Uranium Recovery Applications

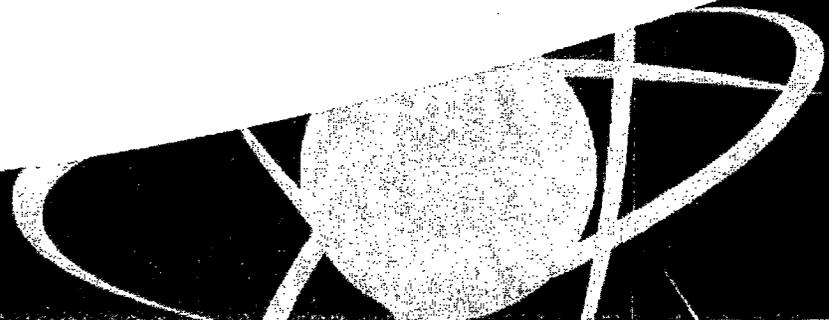
Andrea Kock, Chief, Environmental Review Branch  
USNRC

July 1, 2009

# Guidance on Interactions with other Agencies

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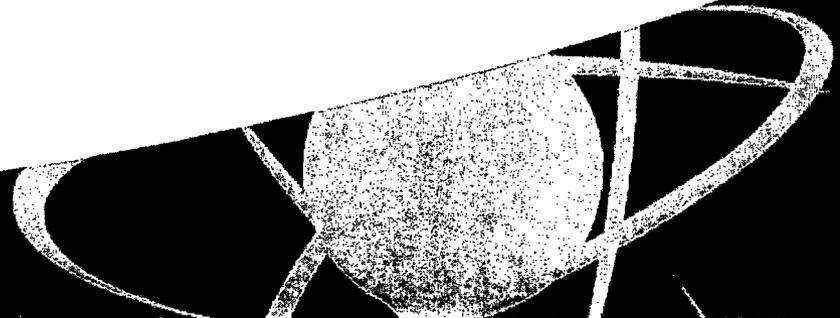
- NRC guidance
- NEPA
- Recent Interactions
  - Targeted scoping
  - BLM
  - EPA
  - Forest Service
  - WYDEQ
  - Native American Tribes



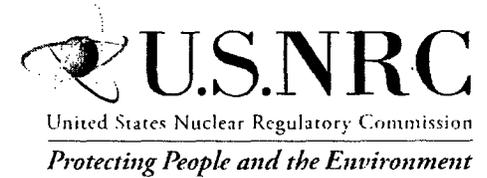
# How NRC Interacts with other Federal Agencies

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- Scoping
- Consultation letters
- Telecons
- Informal information Sharing
- Cooperating agencies
  - MOUs
  - MOAs/PAs



# NRC/BLM MOU



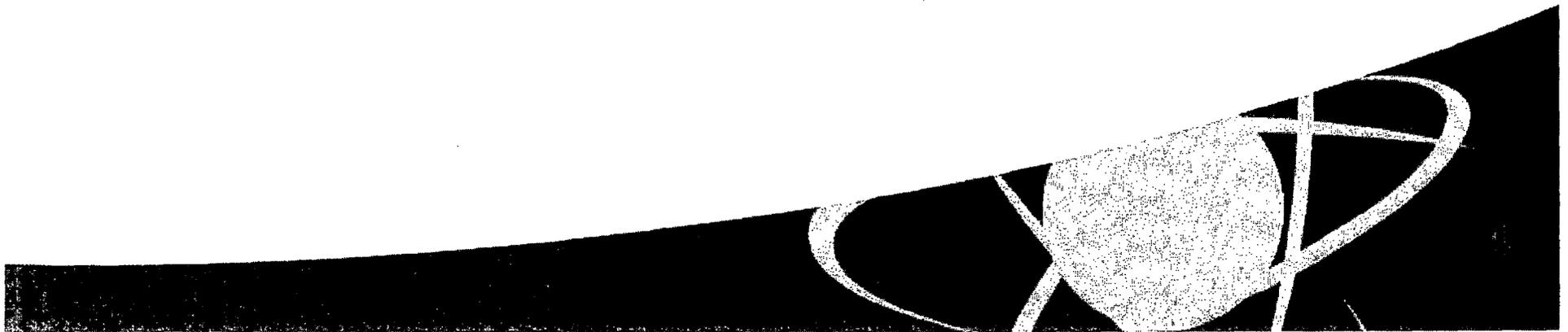
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- **BACKGROUND**

Concurrent NEPA reviews conducted by each agency on same project discovered during visits to BLM field offices in September 2008 to discuss the GEIS

- **NEED**

Numerous proposed new uranium recovery facilities located on BLM-administered land



## Purposes of the MOU

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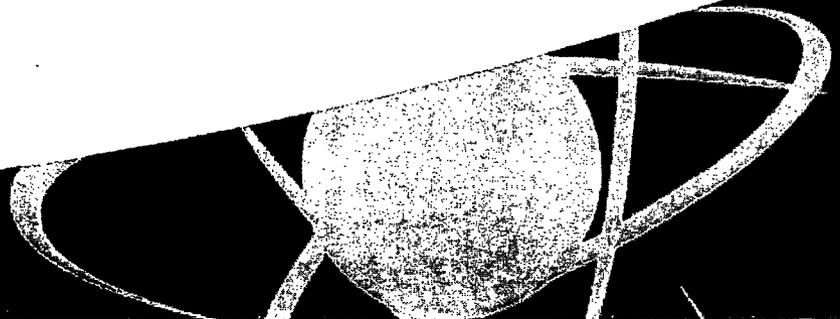
- Provide an efficient means of fulfilling NEPA requirements
- Encourage routine communication
- Advance notice of agency actions
- Provide framework for exchange of data
- Establish roles and responsibilities



# Status of MOU

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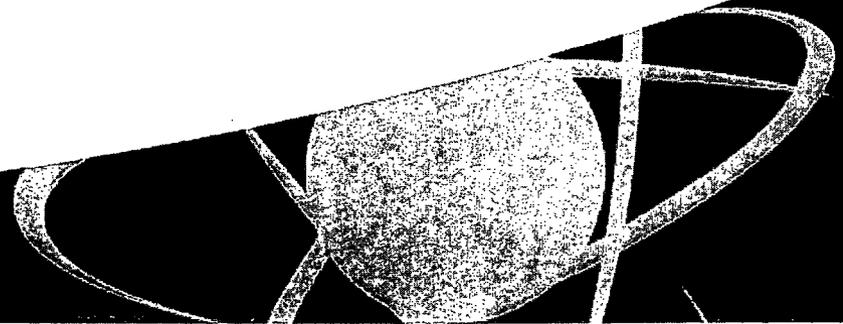
- Draft MOU sent to BLM on January 26 2009
- Revised draft MOU submitted to BLM by NRC on May 20, 2009
- Meeting held June 10 to discuss feasibility of issuing one NEPA document
- Telecon scheduled June 29 to discuss final comments
- Letters to BLM field offices



# Progress

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- Letters to BLM field offices
- Share future agency actions
- Routine communication with field offices
- MOU in final stages
  - Telecon June 30 2009



# NRC/BLM MOU CONTENTS

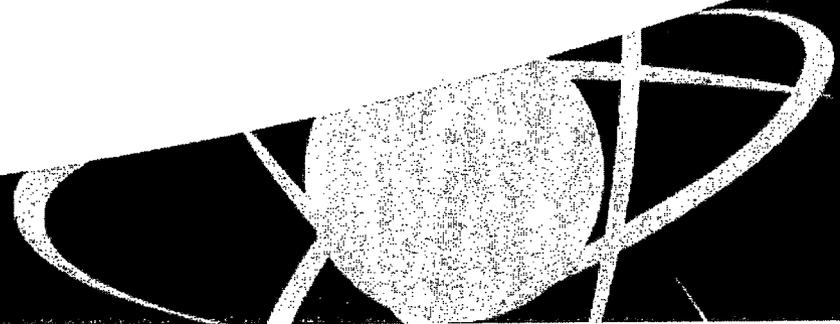
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- PURPOSE
- LEGAL AUTHORITIES
- ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES
- COORDINATION
  - Advance notice of uranium recovery license applications/Plans of Operation
  - Exchange data and information
  - Steering Committee
  - Lead/Co-Lead/Cooperating Agency Status
  - NEPA Implementation and Review Process
  - Schedules and Interagency Communication

# Challenges

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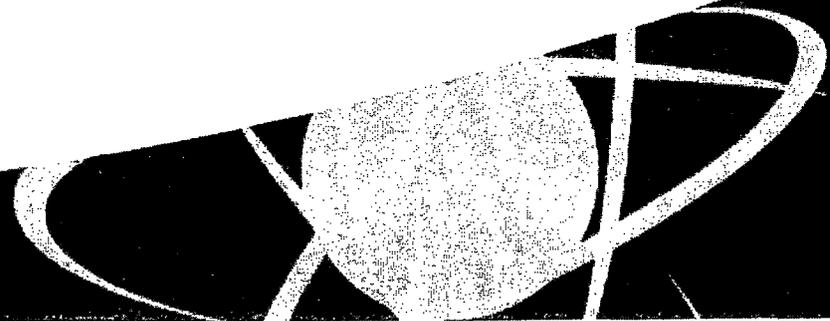
- Different timelines
- Different purpose and need/alternatives
- Agency resources
- Resource areas reviewed
- Different agency roles
- Different procedures for completing documents



# Expected Outcome

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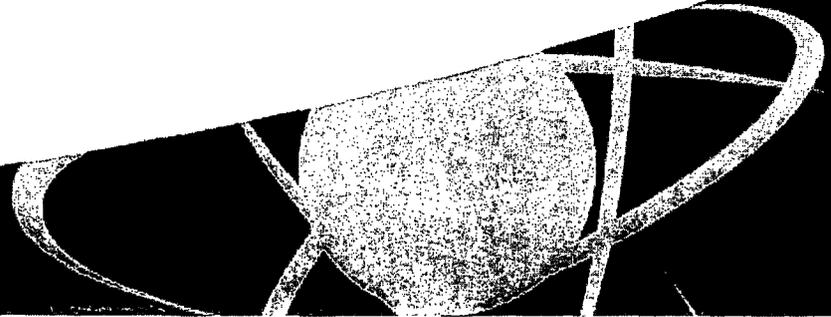
- Increase communication
- Advance notice of expected actions
- Sharing of early drafts of NEPA documents
- Efficiencies in NEPA process
- Continue to explore possibility of only one NEPA document



# Next Steps

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- Finalize BLM/NRC MOU
- Protocol established to delineate NRC roles and responsibilities regarding interacting with agencies
- Continue to be proactive in engaging other federal agencies



# Takeaways

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- NRC is committed to open communication with other agencies.
- The impacts of differences in the roles and responsibilities, and timelines of agencies must be recognized
- NRC and BLM remain committed to coordination and completion of an MOU
- Information will continue to be shared where possible to promote efficiencies

