



# Department of Environmental Quality

*To protect, conserve and enhance the quality of Wyoming's environment for the benefit of current and future generations.*



Matthew H. Mead, Governor

John Corra, Director

April 28, 2011

Mr. Steven J. Pratt, P.E.  
Director, Ground Water Program  
US EPA Region 8  
1595 Wynkoop Street  
Denver, CO 80202

Re: Lost Creek ISR, LLC, Lost Creek Project  
Groundwater Reclassification

Dear Mr. Pratt:

In accordance with the 1983 Underground Injection Control (UIC) program Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the State of Wyoming and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA), the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (WDEQ) is providing the following materials related to the above-referenced in-situ mining project for your review: definition of the permit area and map; description of regional and site specific geology, including the mineralized zone; description of the groundwater within the permitted area, including map and description of groundwater uses; and mine plan, including extraction techniques and process detail.

Attached to this letter is a copy of the Statement of Basis (SOB) for the Water Quality Division's (WQD) proposed reclassification of groundwater within the mine units to Class V (Mineral Commercial) containing WQD's findings regarding the current use of the affected aquifer as a drinking water source and the presence of commercially producible minerals within that aquifer. The SOB includes references to descriptions and materials contained both within the attached stand alone information binder and pertinent sections of the Permit to Mine application. The SOB includes the following enclosures: figures provided in the stand-alone binder; copy of reclassification request letter from Lost Creek ISR, LLC to WDEQ/LQD, and; CD with pertinent text from the WQDEQ/LQD Permit to Mine Application (Appendices D5 and D6, Operations Plan and Reclamation Plan.)

As Lost Creek ISR, LLC opted to wait to publish public notice until the WQD submitted this letter to the EPA along with the SOB proposing groundwater reclassification, no copy of the public notice is enclosed. When the public notice is published, the US EPA will be provided with a copy. In addition, any public comment related to the proposed reclassification of groundwater received during the public comment period or public hearing (if any) will also be provided to the US EPA.

Herschler Building · 122 West 25th Street · Cheyenne, WY 82002 · <http://deq.state.wy.us>

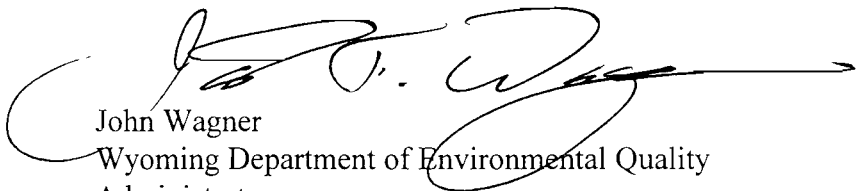
ADMIN/OUTREACH (307) 777-7758 FAX 777-7682	ABANDONED MINES (307) 777-6145 FAX 777-6462	AIR QUALITY (307) 777-7391 FAX 777-5616	INDUSTRIAL SITING (307) 777-7369 FAX 777-6937	LAND QUALITY (307) 777-7756 FAX 777-5864	SOLID & HAZ. WASTE (307) 777-7752 FAX 777-5973	WATER QUALITY (307) 777-7781 FAX 777-5973
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In accordance with the MOA and Wyoming's UIC program description as accepted for program delegation by US EPA, please review these materials for conformance with Wyoming's groundwater classification criteria and the US EPA's regulations at 40 CFR 146.4.

You may contact Kevin Frederick, Groundwater Section Manager, at (307)777-5985 if you have any questions. We look forward to your review and response.

Sincerely,



John Wagner  
Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality  
Administrator  
Water Quality Division

JW/DH/rm/11-0417

Attachments: Statement of Basis including enclosures

cc: Mr. John Cash, Lost Creek ISR, LLC, 5880 Enterprise Dr., Ste. 200  
Casper, WY 82609 (w/o attachments)  
John Corra, WDEQ Director (w/o attachments)  
Alan Edwards, Acting LQD Administrator (w/attachments)  
Alan Bjornsen, NRC, Env. Project Manager, Mail Stop T-8F5, Washington, DC 20555-000  
(w/o attachments)  
Kevin Frederick, Groundwater Section Manager, WQD/Cheyenne (w/o attachments)  
Deborah Harris, WQD/GPC District Supervisor, Lander (w/attachments)  
Melissa Bautz, LQD Geologist, Lander→Mark Moxley, LQD District Supervisor, Lander  
(w/attachments)  
Mark Newman, BLM Geologist, POB 2407, Rawlins, WY 82301-2407 (w/o attachments)