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NRC ISSUES LICENSE TO URANERZ ENERGY CORP. FOR NICHOLS RANCH URANIUM RECOVERY PROJECT IN WYOMING

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued a license to Uranerz Energy Corp. to construct and operate the proposed Nichols Ranch in-situ leach uranium recovery project in Johnson and Campbell counties in Wyoming.

Uranerz submitted the license application for Nichols Ranch on Nov. 30, 2007. The project is to be located in the Pumpkin Buttes Uranium Mining District of the Powder River Basin, about 46 miles south-southwest of Gillette and 60 miles north-northeast of Casper. The project will cover nearly 3,400 acres, of which about 300 acres will be directly affected by operations. The project will recover and mill uranium for use in fuel for commercial nuclear power plants.

The NRC published its Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Nichols Ranch project in January. That report determined that there were no major environmental impacts that would preclude issuing the license. The environmental report is available in the agency's [ADAMS](#) online database by searching for ML103440120. The staff has also completed its Safety Evaluation Report, which will be available in ADAMS by searching for ML102240206.

More information about the Nichols Ranch project and in situ uranium recovery is available on the NRC [website](#).

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