

November 3, 2011

MEMORANDUM TO: Bill Von Till, Chief  
Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch  
Division of Waste Management  
and Environmental Protection  
Office of Federal and State Materials  
and Environmental Management Programs

FROM: Ron Linton, Senior Project Manager **/RA/**  
Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch  
Division of Waste Management  
and Environmental Protection  
Office of Federal and State Materials  
and Environmental Management Programs

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF OCTOBER 20, 2011 MEETING AND  
TELECONFERENCE WITH URANERZ ENERGY  
CORPORATION

On October 20, 2011, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff met with representatives of the Uranerz Energy Corporation to discuss its Jane Dough site and NRC policy on equivalent feed. The associated meeting notice was issued on October 6, 2011, and is available at NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML112790279. A summary of the meeting is enclosed.

Docket No: 040-09067

Enclosure: Meeting Summary

cc: Meeting Attendees  
G. Mooney, WDEQ

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Office	DWMEP	DWMEP	DWMEP	DWMEP
Name	RLinton	BGarrett	S Cohen	RLinton
Date	10/ 27 /11	10/ 27 /11	11/ 2 /11	11/ 03 /11

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## MEETING SUMMARY

DATE: October 20, 2011

TIME: 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

PLACE: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Two White Flint North, Rockville, Maryland  
Room T10C01

PURPOSE: To Discuss Uranerz Jane Dough Site and Nuclear Regulatory  
Commission Policy on Equivalent Feed

ATTENDEES: See Attached Attendee List

### BACKGROUND:

The purpose of this meeting was for Uranerz Energy Corporation (Uranerz) and Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff to discuss the Uranerz Jane Dough site and NRC policy on equivalent feed.

The meeting and teleconference started at 8:00 a.m. Eastern time in room T10C01. An opening statement was presented by Ron Linton, NRC. Participants introduced themselves and signed the attendance sheet.

### DISCUSSION:

Staff from Uranerz discussed the location of the Jane Dough unit that is adjacent to the Nichols Ranch unit of the Nichols Ranch *in situ* recovery (ISR) Project. The recently discovered ore is thought to be from the same ore trend as that of Nichols Ranch unit and contains approximately 2.9 million pounds of uranium. There is no Bureau of Land Management (BLM) surface ownership; therefore, no BLM Plan of Operations is required. Mineral ownership is both private and federal. The site is not within the Pumpkin Buttes viewshed.

Uranerz has started vegetation sampling, air particulate sampling, baseline surface and groundwater sampling. There are 13 coal bed methane reservoirs within or close to the proposed licensed boundary. The ore bearing sands are hydraulically confined, saturated, and similar to those found at the Nichols Ranch unit. Uranerz does not anticipate constructing a satellite facility on the site. Pregnant and barren lixiviant will be piped from the Jane Dough wellfields to the Nichols Ranch ISR central processing facility that is under construction at the Nichols Ranch unit site.

Uranerz also discussed the deep disposal wells that are required by license condition for the Nichols Ranch ISR Project. Uranerz asked NRC staff about the possibility of installing evaporation ponds, additional above-ground tanks, or other methods for process bleed storage, if one of the disposal wells went off-line, in lieu of installing a second well as a backup. NRC staff indicated that Uranerz may propose any alternatives and apply for a license amendment that will be evaluated by the staff on its merits. Uranerz and NRC staff discussed several alternatives.

Enclosure

At the request of Uranerz staff, NRC staff discussed NRC's policy on equivalent feed and the draft Regulatory Information Summary (RIS) recently published in the *Federal Register*. NRC staff indicated that as written the RIS does not pertain to licensed NRC facilities. NRC staff was asked if a license amendment would be needed for Uranerz to ship uranium loaded resins to a licensed third party for final processing. Participants discussed the bounding conditions related to transportation in the Nichols Ranch Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement and the Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement on ISR milling. NRC staff indicated that the Uranerz Safety and Environmental Review Panel should review the need for an amendment and decide if a license amendment is needed or not. Staff suggested the final decision should be discussed with the NRC staff.

#### PUBLIC DISCUSSION:

There were no members of the public that attended the meeting.

#### ACTION ITEMS:

NRC will provide a detailed meeting summary of the issues discussed.

The meeting and teleconference ended at approximately 10:00 a.m. eastern time.

#### ATTACHMENTS:

1. Attendee List
2. Meeting Agenda



## MEETING ATTENDEES

Topic: To Discuss Uranerz Jane Dough Site and Nuclear Regulatory Commission Policy on Equivalent Feed

Date: October 20, 2011

NAME	AFFILIATION
Glen Catchpole	Uranerz Energy Corporation
Mike Thomas	Uranerz Energy Corporation
Ron Linton	NRC
Stephen Cohen	NRC
Patti Swain	NRC
Elise Striz	NRC
Bill vonTill	NRC
John Saxton	NRC
Doug Mandeville	NRC

Attachment 1

**MEETING AGENDA**  
**Uranerz Energy Corporation**  
**October 20, 2011**  
**8:00 a.m.**

**MEETING PURPOSE:** To discuss Uranerz Jane Dough Site and NRC Policy on Equivalent Feed.

**MEETING PROCESS:**

<u>Time</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Lead</u>
8:00 a.m.	Introductions	All
	Discuss the Jane Dough Unit – Project and Amendment	Uranerz
	Other Business – Draft Policy Regarding Submittal of Amendments For Processing of Equivalent Feed at Licensed Uranium Recovery Facilities	All
	Summary of Action Items	Moderator
	Public Comments/Questions	Moderator
10:00 a.m.	Adjourn	