

February 8, 2012

Ann Marshall Young, Chair
Administrative Judge
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel
Mail Stop T-3 F23
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dr. Richard F. Cole
Administrative Judge
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel
Mail Stop T-3 F23
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dr. Fred W. Oliver
Administrative Judge
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel
Mail Stop T-3 F23
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

In the Matter of
CROW BUTTE RESOURCES, INC.
(License Amendment for the North Trend Expansion Project)
Docket No. 40-8943; ASLBP No. 07-859-03-MLA-BD01

Dear Administrative Judges:

In its Order dated March 5, 2009, the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (“Board”) directed the NRC staff (“Staff”) to tender each month a status report advising as to whether the estimated dates for issuance of the final Safety Evaluation Report (“SER”) (predicted for the late summer of 2009) and the final environmental review document (predicted for December of 2009) have changed.¹ The Staff continues to expect at this time to issue the final environmental review document by August 2012. However, due to an assortment of factors, including, *inter alia*, the need to divert resources to more urgent work, Staff now expect to issue the SER by May 2012, as opposed to April 2012.

In keeping with the Board’s mandate, the Staff will tender its next monthly status report by March 16, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

Executed in Accord with 10 CFR 2.304(d)

Brett Michael Patrick Klukan
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Dated at Rockville, Maryland
This 8th day of February, 2012

cc: Attached Service List

¹ Order (Confirming Matters Addressed at March 4, 2009, Telephone Conference), at 1 (March 5, 2009).

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

In the Matter of)	
)	
CROW BUTTE RESOURCES, INC.)	Docket No. 40-8943
In-Situ Leach Facility, Crawford, Nebraska)	
)	ASLBP No. 07-859-03-MLA-BD01
(License Amendment for the North Trend)	
Expansion Project))	

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing "NRC STAFF'S LETTER TO THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD" in the above captioned proceeding have been served via the Electronic Information Exchange ("EIE") this 8th day of February 2012, which to the best of my knowledge resulted in transmittal of the foregoing to those on the EIE Service List for the above captioned proceeding.

Executed in Accord with 10 CFR 2.304(d)

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