April 2, 2012

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

Mark O. Barnett
Administrative Judge
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel
Mail Stop T-3 F23
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

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

In the Matter of
POWERTECH (USA) INC.,
Docket No. 40-9075-MLA; ASLBP No. 10-898-02-MLA-BD01

Dear Administrative Judges:

On October 4, 2010, the Board issued an order directing the Staff to submit monthly status reports specifying the Staff's best estimate of the issuance dates for draft and final documents associated with its review of Powertech's application. The Staff filed its last status report on March 1, 2012.

The Staff's current best estimates are:

Safety Evaluation Report (SER)
August 2012

Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS)
August 2012

Final SEIS
January 2013–May 2013

The Staff has changed its estimate for issuance of the SER from June 2012 to August 2012. This will ensure the Staff has sufficient time to review the groundwater modeling report that Powertech submitted on February 27, 2012.[1] The Staff's estimates for the draft and final SEIS are the same as in the last status report.

The Staff would also note that it intends to provide Powertech a draft license in June 2012. The draft license does not presume that a license will be issued. Rather, it serves to inform the

[1] "Numerical Modeling of Hydrogeological Conditions, Dewey-Burdock Project, South Dakota" (February 27, 2012) (ADAMS Accession No. ML120620195).

applicant of potential license conditions, thereby bringing to the applicant's attention certain issues or information that it must address prior to and during operations. Issuing a draft license is consistent with Staff practice in other uranium recovery licensing proceedings.

Sincerely,

/Signed (electronically) by/
Patricia Jehle

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Patricia Jehle
Counsel for NRC Staff

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

In the Matter of	)	
	)	
POWERTECH (USA) INC	)	Docket No. 40-9075-MLA
	)	ASLBP No. 10-898-02- MLA-BD01
	)	
(Dewey-Burdock In Situ Uranium Recovery Facility)	)	Date: April 2, 2012
	)	

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing "NRC STAFF'S STATUS REPORT" in this proceeding have been served via the Electronic Information Exchange (EIE) this 2nd day of April 2012, which to the best of my knowledge resulted in transmittal of the copies to those on the EIE Service List for the above-captioned proceeding.

/Signed (electronically) by/
Patricia Jehle

_____
Patricia Jehle
Counsel for the NRC Staff