

August 22, 2012

Dr. Benjamin Tuggle, Regional Director
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
P.O. Box 1306
Albuquerque, NM 87103-1306

SUBJECT: NOTIFICATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACT STATEMENT FOR THE PROPOSED FLUORINE EXTRACTION
PROCESS AND DEPLETED URANIUM DECONVERSION FACILITY IN LEA
COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

Dear Dr. Tuggle:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has prepared the "Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Fluorine Extraction Process and Depleted Uranium Deconversion Plant in Lea County, New Mexico" (NUREG-2113). This Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) includes an analysis of relevant environmental issues, including information on potential impacts to ecological resources, and documents the NRC staff's determination regarding the potential environmental impacts from the construction, operation, and decommissioning of the proposed uranium processing facility. The NRC staff's determination is that impacts to ecological resources from construction, operation, and decommissioning of the proposed facility would be small.

The Draft EIS was transmitted to your office for review and comment by letter dated January 4, 2012. In preparing the Final EIS, the NRC staff reviewed, considered, evaluated, and addressed the comments received on the Draft EIS. Appendix F of the Final EIS presents the comments received on the Draft EIS and the NRC responses to those comments.

Enclosed is the Final EIS on a compact disc (CD).

B. Tuggle

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If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Asimios Malliakos, Project Manager, by phone at 301-415-6458, or by email at Asimios.Malliakos@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Kevin Hsueh, Chief
Environmental Review Branch
Environmental Protection
and Performance Assessment Directorate
Division of Waste Management
and Environmental Protection
Office of Federal and State Materials
and Environmental Management Programs

Docket No.: 40-9086

Enclosure: Final EIS (CD Copy)

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