

July 18, 2012

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: Stephen Cohen, Team Leader **/RA/ D. Mandeville for S.Cohen**
Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch
Division of Waste Management
and Environmental Protection
Office of Federal and State Materials
and Environmental Management Programs

SUBJECT: PUBLIC MEETING SUMMARY

On Monday, June 18, 2012, a public meeting was held with Strathmore Minerals at NRC Headquarters. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the latest developments regarding Strathmore's Gas Hills Uranium Recovery Facility. A summary of the meeting is enclosed.

Enclosure: Meeting Summary
Attendees List

CONTACT: S. Cohen, FSME/DWMEP
(301) 415-7182

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DISTRIBUTION:

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Meeting Attendees

ML12200A122

OFFICE	DWMEP	DWMEP	DWMEP
NAME	DMandeville for SCohen	BGarrett	DMandeville for SCohen
DATE	07/16/12	07/18/12	07/19/12

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

MEETING REPORT

DATE: Monday, June 18, 2012

TIME: See Agenda (Attachment 1)

PLACE: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Headquarters
11545 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852
Room T-8C5

PURPOSE: The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the latest developments regarding Strathmore Minerals Gas Hills Uranium Recovery Facility (GHURF).

ATTENDEES:

See Attached Attendees List (Attachment 2).

BACKGROUND:

Strathmore Minerals, Inc. (Strathmore) is planning the GHURF, which will be a heap leach facility in the Gas Hills area of Wyoming. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff toured the proposed site in September 2011, to become familiar with the site and its surroundings. Strathmore will submit the GHURF application in mid-FY 2013.

DISCUSSION:

After introductions, Strathmore presented a slide show containing the various discussion points (See Enclosure 3). Ore from four mines will be transported to the GHURF for processing. These mines are a maximum 7.5 miles from the GHURF and included the George/Ver Mine, Bullrush Mine, Day Loma Mine, and the Rock Hill Mine.

Strathmore is coordinating with the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (WDEQ). BLM's Lander Field Office will be permitting the GHURF, as well as the Lander WDEQ office. Strathmore is anticipating two environmental impact statements (EIS), one for the mining aspect and one for the heap leach processing. Strathmore is anticipating that the NRC and the BLM will cooperate to prepare one EIS for the heap leach processing. Strathmore is expecting the mining EIS to be completed in 18-24 months.

Baseline information gathering is currently underway. The entire area of the site, as well as the surrounding areas, are considered "brownfields." Vegetation is minimal and wildlife (large mammals) is limited to antelope. The site is located outside of a sage-grouse core area.

Enclosure

Strathmore is proposing to use ion exchange to recover uranium of leach solutions. The GHURF plant is expected to process 1200 gpm of leach solutions at an ore loading rate of 1000 tons per day. Strathmore will use reverse osmosis to treat process fluids prior to discharging them to an evaporation pond. Currently, yellowcake will be produced at the GHURF. Heap leach cells and evaporation ponds would be located in an enclosed basin. Cells will be double synthetic-lined with leak detection. Ore will be stockpiled outside the NRC-licensed area, and a conveyor will transport the ore to the licensed heap.

ACTIONS:

None

ATTACHMENTS

1. Agenda
2. List of Attendees
3. Presentation

**MEETING AGENDA
Strathmore/Gas Hills
June 18, 2012**

MEETING PURPOSE: Discuss Strathmore's Gas Hill Heap Leach Facility.

MEETING PROCESS:

<u>Time</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Lead</u>
1:00 p.m.	Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• General Project and Regional Description:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Gas Hills Location○ Surrounding mine locations supplying ore to Gas Hills○ Historic mining areas○ Reclaimed mill and tailings sites○ Nearest towns, site access, etc.• Mine Permitting Approach:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Mine permit encompassing George/Ver, Bullrush, Day Loma, And Rock Hill mine units○ Wyoming DEQ and BLM agreement on expanded mine Permit area○ Central location of Gas Hill within permitted mining area• BLM EIS Process<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Required EIS for expanded mine area permit○ Discussions with BLM regarding EIS development○ Proposed EIS development approach○ Possible coordination or cooperation in EIS process• Approaches under consideration for BLM Section 106 concerns• Mining development zone, sage grouse core areas, identified sage Grouse leks, and other concerns balancing mining with public land use• Ore Processing and Column Testing:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Bottle roll testing conducted○ Column tests○ Ore characteristics and implications for the heap leach process• Site Baseline Studies:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ MET station○ Air sampling stations○ Soil sampling locations○ Preliminary gamma data○ Preliminary MET data from GV station	All

- Process Plant Layout:
 - Plant layout and structures
 - Process pond locations
 - Evaporation/Storage pond location
 - IX processing plant capacity
 - Dryer facilities

- Heap Leach Cell:
 - Heap leach cell – 40 acres
 - Liner system and configuration
 - Fluid recovery sumps
 - Leach detection system

- Ore Processing:
 - Preliminary configuration of ore receiving/processing area
 - Adjacent to heap leach cell
 - Excluded from restricted area

- Geotechnical:
 - Continuing geotechnical evaluation
 - Boring techniques and sampling
 - Geophysical and other techniques

Summary of Action Items

Public Comment/Questions

3:00 p.m.

Adjourn



MEETING ATTENDEES

Date: Monday, June 18, 2012, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Headquarters, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Topic: Strathmore Minerals, Inc. Gas Hills Uranium Recovery Facility

NAME	AFFILIATION
Stephen J. Cohen	USNRC
Juan Velasquez	Strathmore Minerals
Thomas Powell	Strathmore Minerals
Dale A. Shay	Rimcon, LLC
Steven H. Brown	SENES
Jim Crouch	Strathmore Minerals
Tom Michel	Hydro-Engineering, Inc.
Bill von Till	USNRC
Doug Mandeville	USNRC
Alan Bjornsen	USNRC
Tanya Palmateer Oxenberg	USNRC