

September 14, 2012

Michael M. Gibson, Chairman  
Administrative Judge  
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel  
Mail Stop T-3 F23  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dr. Richard Cole  
Administrative Judge  
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel  
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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Brian K. Hajek  
Administrative Judge  
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel  
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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Alan S. Rosenthal  
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 Renewal for the In Situ Leach Facility, Crawford, Nebraska)  
Docket No. 40-8943; ASLBP No. 08-867-02-OLA-BD01

Dear Administrative Judges:

In its Order dated January 8, 2009, the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board ("Board") directed the NRC staff ("Staff"), commencing on January 15, 2009, to tender each month "a short report advising as to whether the estimated dates for issuance of the final [Safety Evaluation Report ('SER')] (predicted for summer/fall of 2009) and final [environmental review document] (predicted for December of 2009) have changed or become more definitive." The Staff now expects to issue the SER by the end of October 2012. The Staff continues to expect to be able to issue the final environmental document by December 2012; however, the Staff would also note that there is a possibility of delay (up to a few months) due to time potentially needed to accomplish activities pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

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

Respectfully submitted,

**Signed (electronically) by**  
Marcia J. Simon  
Counsel for the NRC Staff  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
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(301) 415-1261  
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Dated at Rockville, Maryland  
This 14<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2012

cc: Attached Service List

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
	)	
(License Renewal for the In Situ Leach	)	ASLBP No. 08-867-08-OLA-BD01
Facility, Crawford, Nebraska)	)	

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 14<sup>th</sup> day of September 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.

**Signed (electronically) by**

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