

November 16, 2012

Mr. Stan Michals  
South Dakota Game, Fish, & Parks  
Department  
4725 Jackson Blvd.  
Pierre, SD 57702

SUBJECT: NOTIFICATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR THE DEWEY-BURDOCK *IN-SITU* RECOVERY PROJECT IN FALL RIVER AND CUSTER COUNTIES, SOUTH DAKOTA, SUPPLEMENT TO THE GENERIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR *IN-SITU* LEACH URANIUM MILLING FACILITIES

Dear Mr. Michals:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff is reviewing a source materials license application submitted by Powertech (USA), Inc. for the construction, operation, aquifer restoration, and decommissioning of the proposed Dewey-Burdock *In-Situ* Recovery (ISR) Project. The facility is proposed to be located in Fall River and Custer Counties, South Dakota. The proposed facility, if licensed, would recover uranium by a process known as *In-Situ* recovery.

As part of the review of the application, the NRC has prepared a draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) (NUREG-1910, Supplement 4). The draft SEIS includes an analysis of relevant environmental issues and documents the NRC staff's preliminary determination regarding the environmental impacts from the construction, operation, aquifer restoration, and decommissioning of the proposed facility. The NRC staff's preliminary determination is that potential impacts to ecological resources from construction, operation, aquifer restoration, and decommissioning of the proposed facility will be Small to Moderate.

The NRC staff is enclosing the draft SEIS for your review and comment. Please provide any information, comments, or concerns you may have on the draft SEIS during the comment period, which ends on January 7, 2013 (or 45 days after the date of publication of the *Federal Register* notice). Comments should be submitted in writing either by mail to Cindy Bladey, Chief, Rules, Announcements and Directives Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Office of Administration, Mailstop TWB-05-B01M, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001 (include Docket ID: in the subject line) or on <http://www.regulations.gov> (after November 23, 2012) and search for documents filed under Docket ID NRC-2012-0277. The NRC staff will address your comments in the final SEIS.

S. Michals

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If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Ms. Haimanot Yilma, Project Manager, by phone at 301-415-8029, or by e-mail at [Haimanot.Yilma@nrc.gov](mailto:Haimanot.Yilma@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.: 040-9075

Enclosure: Draft SEIS

S. Michals

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If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Ms. Haimanot Yilma, Project Manager, by phone at 301-415-8029, or by e-mail at [Haimanot.Yilma@nrc.gov](mailto:Haimanot.Yilma@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

Kevin Hsueh, Chief  
Environmental Review Branch  
Environmental Protection  
and Performance Assessment Directorate  
Division of Waste Management  
and Environmental Protection  
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