

November 16, 2012

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

Dr. 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

Dr. Fred W. Oliver
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 Amendment for the North Trend Expansion Project)
Docket No. 40-8943; ASLBP No. 07-859-03-MLA-BD01

Dear Administrative Judges:

In its Order dated March 5, 2009, the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (“Board”) directed the NRC staff (“Staff”) to tender each month a status report advising as to whether the estimated dates for issuance of the final Safety Evaluation Report (“SER”) (predicted for the late summer of 2009) and the final environmental review document (predicted for December of 2009) have changed.¹ The Staff continues to expect to be able to issue the SER by the end of December 2012. The Staff continues to expect to issue the final environmental review document by the end of March 2013. The Staff notes, however, that there is a possibility of further delay (up to a few months) in issuing the environmental review document due to the complicated nature of the Section 106 consultation activities.

In keeping with the Board’s mandate, the Staff will tender its next monthly status report by December 14, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

Signed (electronically) by
Brett Michael Patrick Klukan
Counsel for the NRC Staff
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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Brett.Klukan@NRC.gov

Dated at Rockville, Maryland
This 16th day of November, 2012

cc: Attached Service List

¹ Order (Confirming Matters Addressed at March 4, 2009, Telephone Conference), at 1 (March 5, 2009).

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
In-Situ Leach Facility, Crawford, Nebraska)	
)	ASLBP No. 07-859-03-MLA-BD01
(License Amendment for the North Trend)	
Expansion Project))	

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"), the NRC's E-Filing System, this 16th day of November 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
Brett Michael Patrick Klukan
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