



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Office of Public Affairs Telephone: 301/415-8200

Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

E-mail: opa.resource@nrc.gov Site: www.nrc.gov

Blog: <http://public-blog.nrc-gateway.gov>

No. 13-018

March 21, 2013

NRC SEEKS PUBLIC COMMENT ON DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR ROSS URANIUM RECOVERY PROJECT

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is asking the public to comment on a draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for the proposed Ross in-situ uranium recovery project in Crook County, Wyo. The draft SEIS includes the NRC staff's preliminary recommendation to grant the license unless safety issues mandate otherwise.

Strata Energy Inc. submitted a license application for the facility on Jan. 4, 2011. The license would authorize Strata to construct, operate and ultimately decommission the facility, which would use the in-situ leach process to recover uranium from underground ore and convert the recovered uranium into yellowcake for use in the production of nuclear fuel.

The NRC draft report analyzes environmental impacts specific to the Ross site and mitigation strategies to reduce or avoid adverse effects on the surrounding environment. The staff completed a separate [technical review](#) to analyze safety aspects of the application in February 2013. That review found Strata's license application meets the NRC's regulatory requirements. An NRC Atomic Safety and Licensing Board will hold a hearing on environmental contentions in June 2014.

Public comments on the draft SEIS will be accepted for 45 days following publication of a notice in the *Federal Register*, expected March 29. Comments may be submitted using the federal government's rulemaking [website](#) after that date using Docket ID NRC-2013-0148. They may also be mailed to Cindy Bladey, Chief, Rules, Announcements and Directives Branch, Office of Administration, Mail Stop TWB-05-B01M, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington D.C. 20555-0001.

The draft SEIS for the proposed Ross project is available on the [NRC website](#) as Supplement 5 to NUREG-1910, Generic Environmental Impact Statement for In-Situ Leach Uranium Milling Facilities. More information on the application and the staff's review is also available on the [NRC website](#).

###

News releases are available through a free [Listserv subscription](#) or by clicking on the [EMAIL UPDATES](#) link on the NRC homepage (www.nrc.gov). E-mail notifications are sent to subscribers when news releases are posted to NRC's website. For the latest news, follow the NRC on www.twitter.com/NRCgov.