

August 29, 2013

Ms. Jennifer Thurston, Director
Information Network for Responsible Mining
P.O. Box 27
Norwood, Colorado 81423

Dear Ms. Thurston:

This letter responds to your letter dated August 6, 2013, regarding your questions about source material processing of ore from the Nuvemco site in Mesa County, Colorado, and issuance of a U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) license for an ablation or ore processing facility in Wyoming. We have reviewed your letter and have responses to the two questions you raised. Your questions, and our responses, are provided below.

Question 1: Can you please inform us whether an application for a source material processing license has been received from any of the parties involved in the processing of ore from the Nuvemco site in Mesa County, Colorado?

Response 1: As of August 9, 2013, the NRC has not received an application for a source material license for processing of ore from the Nuvemco site.

Question 2: Has the NRC issued a license for an ablation or other ore processing facility in Wyoming to Ablation Technologies, Black Range, or another company?

Response 2: The NRC has not issued a license for an ablation or ore processing facility in Wyoming to Ablation Technologies, Black Range Minerals, or any other companies. As of August 9, the NRC has not received a license application for such a facility located in Wyoming.

We appreciate your bringing this matter to our attention. We have contacted the company (see correspondence in the enclosure) and continue to review the situation to identify NRC's appropriate course of action.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice for Domestic Licensing Proceedings and Issuance of Orders," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

J. Thurston

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If you have any questions concerning the above, please contact Doug Mandeville at 301-415-0724 or via email at Doug.Mandeville@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Bill VonTill, Chief
Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch
Decommissioning and Uranium Recovery
Licensing Directorate
Division of Waste Management
and Environmental Protection
Office of Federal and State Materials
and Environmental Management Programs

Enclosure: As stated

cc: S. Tarlton, CDPHE
N. Nuttbrock, WDEQ
S. Anderson, Powder River Basin Resource Council
L. Alter, Tallahassee Area Community
S. Fields, Uranium Watch

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