

August 8, 2013

CAMECO RESOURCES Smith Ranch-Highland

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Hand Delivered

Robin Jones, District 1 Supervisor Land Quality Division Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality Herschler Building 122 West 25th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Release of Solutions Report, Mine Unit F, HH F-2, Cameco Resources, Smith Ranch Highland Uranium Project, Permit 603

Dear Mr. Jones:

In accordance with Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (WDEQ) regulation and the NRC License SUA 1548, Power Resources, Inc. d/b/a Cameco Resources (Cameco) verbally notified Mr. Robin Jones of Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, Land Quality Division (LQD), and Mr. Doug Mandeville, Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), on July 31, 2013, that a release occurred at Smith Ranch-Highland Uranium Project in Converse County, Wyoming. An email notification to Robin Jones was sent on August 1, 2013. Mr. Joe Hunter of Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, Water Quality Division (WQD) was contacted on August 1, 2013. The release was also recorded in the WQD Report a Spill or Release online database, Incident Id: 130802-090358.

It was determined that the release was approximately 1,048 gallons of production fluid. The release was determined to be the result of a manufactured fitting failure on a production fluid trunk line. The fluid released flowed from the point of failure, to the surface and downhill into a dry draw. Upon discovery, the pipeline was immediately shut down and a vacuum truck was dispatched to recover as much fluid as possible. Approximately 500 gallons were recovered. The perimeter of the release was staked out, and later mapped using a hand held GPS device. The pipeline is currently being repaired and will be put back in service following confirmation of repairs. Samples of the fluid released was taken on July 31, 2013 and analyzed for uranium. The result of the analysis showed uranium content of 10.0 **ppm**. Nine soil samples were taken from the area plus one background sample. These samples will be analyzed for Uranium, Radium 226, Se and As at Energy Laboratories. A gamma survey at the selected sample points showed readings at or close to background (16 μ R) except at the very end of the release (Sample 9 on the map) which was 75 μ R. The fluid is not considered hazardous material under RCRA and is not

reportable under SARA. Due to these readings and the laboratory results of other releases that have occurred with similar solution concentrations, the area should not be considered hazardous.

The release was located in the SW ¼ and NW ¼ of Section 22, T36N, R73W, of Converse County, Wyoming. A field map is attached showing approximate location of the release. The release will be updated into the site base map for inclusion in the Annual Report.

Upon receipt of analytical results, Cameco will provide a follow-up letter to LQD with the soil sample analyses. Any further characterization for potential remediation will be discussed in the follow-up letter.

Please contact me at 307-358-6541, ext. 476 or <u>Kenneth_Garoutte@cameco.com</u> if you have questions.

Respectfully,

Ken Garoutte

Safety, Health, Environment and Quality (SHEQ) Manager

KG/nsb

Attachments:

Map

cc: Fil

File SR 4.3.3.1
Special Volume: Wellfield Release, Spill Reports

Mr. Doug Mandeville, NRC Certified Mail # 7012: 2210 0002 5617 0581

Document Control Desk, NRC Certified Mail # 7012-2210 0002 5617 0598

Mr. Joe Hunter – Water Quality Division Certified Mail # 7012 2210 0002 5617 0604 OF 82

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