United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission Official Hearing Exhibit STRATA ENERGY, INC.

In the Matter of:



(Ross In Situ Recovery Uranium Project) ASLBP #: 12-915-01-MLA-BD01 Docket #: 04009091 Exhibit #: JT1056-00-BD01 Admitted: 10/1/2014 Rejected: Other:

Identified: 10/1/2014 Withdrawn: Stricken:





July 8, 2013

Sent via Overnight Mail

Mr. Ron C. Linton, Project Manager Decommissioning & Uranium Recovery Licensing Directorate Division of Waste Management & Environmental Protection Office of Federal and State Materials & Environmental Management Programs U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission11545 Rockville Pike Rockville, MD 20852-2738

Subject: License SUA-1341, Docket No. 40-8502

Willow Creek Project

## **MU 2-6 Groundwater Restoration**

Dear Mr. Linton:

Uranium One USA, Inc. ("Uranium One") is and has been actively evaluating the comments provided in the NRC Restoration Technical Evaluation Report (TER), dated October 23, 2012 concerning the Wellfield Restoration Report Christensen Ranch Project (2008 Report). The NRC report requests a broad range of evaluations (information or demonstration of restoration needs) and in most cases requests Uranium One to collect additional water quality data to verify analytical data and stabilization analyses provided in the 2008 Report. However, most wells utilized in the original 2008 Report and specifically mentioned in the NRC Restoration TER have not been sampled since the post-restoration stabilization period over 4 years ago. Consequently, these wells required a significant amount of refurbishment to facilitate the collection of water samples representative of the restored production zone aquifer.

Uranium One's data collection to date has included both qualitative (water quality analysis) and quantitative (groundwater flow and elevations) evaluations of existing groundwater conditions in some of the restored wellfields. In certain circumstances variations in water quality from samples collected in response to the NRC comments from some of the restored mine units has required Uranium One to evaluate the water quality on a more thorough basis. This has included sampling a number of additional wells in order to gain a better understanding of any fluctuations and variations of water quality in comparison to the original stabilization water

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quality analytical values provided in the 2008 Report. Uranium One has also retained Petrotek Engineering Corporation to assist in responding to the NRC comments and information requests outlined in the October 2012 NRC Restoration TER. Petrotek will be particularly helpful in assisting in responding to the NRC requests as they were the primary consultant used in the evaluation and development of the 2008 Wellfield Restoration Report.

Uranium One, in consultation and assistance from Petrotek, is anticipating additional data collection efforts will be undertaken during the months of July and August. These new data, in conjunction with the recent data collected by Uranium One, will be used to compare current production zone water quality concentrations with the stabilization water quality concentrations presented in the 2008 Restoration Report and ultimately respond to the comments and requests in the NRC Restoration TER. Upon completion of this data collection and evaluation, Uranium One suggests a meeting or conference call with the NRC and WDEQ-LQD in September to discuss the findings.

Uranium One is highly motivated to complete the data evaluation and information requested by the NRC in order to have the aquifer restoration of Christensen Ranch Wellfields 2-6 (excluding MU 5-2 currently in production) deemed complete by the NRC and WDEQ-LQD and move forward with wellfield decommissioning activities at the site. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at <u>jon.winter@uranium1.com</u> or 307-233-6331.

Sincerely,

10

Jon Winter Director, Safety Health and Environment Uranium One Americas

cc: Donna Wichers

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