

November 20, 2015

MEMORANDUM TO: Bill Von Till, Chief
Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch
Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery
and Waste Programs
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

FROM: John L. Saxton, Project Manager */RA/*
Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch
Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery
and Waste Programs
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF 09/29/15 PUBLIC MEETING ON STRATA ENERGY,
INC.'S MINE UNIT 1 HYDROGEOLOGIC PACKAGE

On September 29, 2015, a public meeting was held at U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Headquarters, at the request of staff, to discuss Strata Energy, Inc.'s Mine Unit 1 Hydrogeologic Package. A summary of the meeting is enclosed.

Docket No.: 040-09091

Enclosure:
Meeting Summary

CONTACT: John Saxton, NMSS/DUWP
(301) 415-0697

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DISTRIBUTION: LGersey/RIV

ADAMS Accession No.: ML15323A073

OFFICE	DUWP/PM	DUWP/LA	DUWP/PM
NAME	J. Saxton	S. Achten	J. Saxton
DATE	11/19/15	11/19/15	11/20/15

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MEETING SUMMARY

DATE: September 29, 2015

TIME: 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

PLACE: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Headquarters
Three White Flint North, Room 1C5
Rockville, Maryland

PURPOSE: This meeting was held at the request of staff to discuss the Mine Unit 1 Wellfield Data Package for the Strata Energy, Inc. Ross ISR facility, Crook County, Wyoming.

ATTENDEES: See Enclosed Attendee List

BACKGROUND:

By letter dated July 17, 2015 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession Number ML15209A703), Strata Energy, Inc. (Strata) submitted to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) its Mine Unit 1 (MU1) Wellfield Data Package for the Ross in situ recovery facility located in Crook County, Wyoming. The package was submitted for NRC staff's review and verification pursuant to license SUA-1601, Condition 10.13.

By letter dated September 8, 2015 (ML15243A422), Staff notified Strata of two issues that were critical for the timely verification of the MU1 Wellfield Data Package. The issues were: (1) abandonment of historic drill holes pursuant to paragraph B of License Condition 10.12; and (2) incomplete characterization of the groundwater-flow paths pursuant to License Condition 10.13.

NRC staff requested this public meeting to discuss issues identified during its review. The public notice and preliminary agenda for this meeting are attached (Enclosure 1).

DISCUSSION:

NRC staff read the opening statement for a Category 1 public meeting. A list of attendees are attached (Enclosure 2).

The abandonment of drill holes was first discussed. Strata stated it did not agree with Staff's interpretation of this issue; however, to resolve it, Strata instructed its consultant to provide an update of the proposed finding/work. Strata's consultant provided the following:

Flow downgradient today is southward due to the pumping at the industrial wells. The southerly downgradient area from MU1 to the wells is approximately 750 to 950 feet wide and includes approximately 130 historic drill holes that extend to the DM unit. Without the industrial wells in operation, the downgradient flow would be to the northwest. The consultant reported that only a few historic drill holes are located in the northwesterly downgradient direction.

Strata reported that the abandonment will be completed within 3 weeks. Staff indicated it would expect a report on the abandoned drill holes prior to verification.

Enclosure

The issue of groundwater-flow paths, specifically the high-than-expected potentiometric heads at several perimeter wells located along the southern boundary of MU1, was addressed by Strata's consultant. Strata's consultant provided the following:

An aquifer test was performed in the SM unit, specifically pumping at SM-10 with measurement of water levels at seven perimeter monitoring wells, six monitoring wells in the SM unit and one ore zone baseline well (OZ-22). The duration of the aquifer test was 24 hours. All SM wells exhibited drawdown during the test, only two perimeter wells, PM-19 and PM-12, exhibited drawdown, 1.4 feet and less than 0.1 feet of drawdown, respectively, the ore zone baseline did not exhibit drawdown.

Staff asked that in the report of the findings, Strata address the impacts on the future excursion monitoring at the perimeter wells that exhibit drawdown during the aquifer test.

There were no questions from the public or action items.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Enclosures:

1. Meeting Announcement and Agenda
2. List of Attendees

PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Title: Discuss Staff's Critical Issues with Verification of Strata's Mine Unit 1 Wellfield Package

Date(s): September 29, 2015

Time(s): 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM

Location: Teleconference

Category: This is a Category 1 meeting. The public is invited to observe this meeting and will have one or more opportunities to communicate with the NRC after the business portion of the meeting but before the meeting is adjourned.

Purpose: Discuss Staff's Critical Issues with Verification of Strata's Mine Unit 1 Wellfield Package

Contact: John Saxton, 301-415-0697
john.saxton@nrc.gov

Participants:	<u>NRC</u>	<u>External</u>
	Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards	Strata Energy, Inc.

Docket No: 04009091

Comments: Reference Documents:
ML15243A422 ML15209A703
Interested members of the public can participate this meeting via teleconference. For additional details, please call the NRC meeting contact(s) listed on the NRC Meeting Schedule or call the NRC's toll-free number, 1-800-368-5642, and ask the operator to be connected to the meeting contact John Saxton or the DUWP Administrative Assistant at 301-415-7319.

PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA

September 29, 2015

10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Teleconference

TOPIC: Discuss Staff's Critical Issues with Verification of Strata's Mine Unit 1 Wellfield Package

TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKER
10:00 a.m. - 10:10 a.m.	Introduction	All
10:10 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.	Verification Issues	Strata
11:15 a.m. - 11:25 a.m. 11:25 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Public Comments Summary	Public NRC

The time of the meeting is local to the jurisdiction where the meeting is being held.

The NRC provides reasonable accommodation to individuals with disabilities where appropriate. If reasonable accommodation is needed to participate in this meeting, or if a meeting notice, transcript, or other information from this meeting is needed in another format (e.g., Braille, large print), please notify the NRC meeting contact. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

ADAMS Accession Number: ML15258A297

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Link to meeting details: <http://meetings.nrc.gov/pmns/mtg?do=details&Code=20151388>

Commission's Policy Statement on "Enhancing Public Participation in NRC Meetings" 67 Federal Register 36920, May 28, 2002

The policy statement may be found on the NRC web site: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/commission/policy/67fr36920.html>

MEETING ATTENDEES

*September 29, 2015
Room 3-1C5
10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.*

TOPIC: Discuss Strata's Mine Unit 1 Wellfield Package

NAME	AFFILIATION
John Saxton	NRC
David Cylkowski	NRC
Mike Clark	NRC
Mike Griffin*	Strata
Ben Schiffer*	Strata

***Participated via Teleconference**