

December 24, 2015

G. Paul Bollwerk, III, Chair  
Administrative Judge  
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel  
Mail Stop T-3 F23  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dr. Fred W. Oliver  
Administrative Judge  
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel  
Mail Stop T-3 F23  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

In the Matter of  
CROW BUTTE RESOURCES, INC.  
(License Amendment for the North Trend Expansion Project)  
Docket No. 40-8943; ASLBP No. 07-859-03-MLA-BD01

Dear Administrative Judges:

In its Order dated March 5, 2009, the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (“Board”) directed the NRC staff (“Staff”) to tender each month a status report advising as to whether the estimated dates for issuance of the final Safety Evaluation Report (“SER”) (predicted for the late summer of 2009) and the final environmental review document (predicted for December of 2009) have changed.<sup>1</sup> On July 26, 2013, the Staff informed the Board and the parties of the public availability of the SER. The SER can be accessed electronically via ADAMS Accession Number ML110820512.

On December 16, 2015, Cameco, Inc. submitted a letter to the NRC Staff, requesting that the Staff discontinue its review of the North Trend application in order to prioritize review of the Crow Butte Marsland expansion area application (ADAMS Accession No. ML15355A391). In light of this letter, the Staff is suspending its review of the North Trend application until it has completed its review of the Marsland application. The Staff expects to complete its review of the Marsland application by November 30, 2016, and to resume its environmental review of the North Trend application at that time. In keeping with the Board’s mandate, the Staff will tender its next monthly status report by January 15, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

**Signed (electronically) by**  
David M. Cylkowski  
Counsel for the NRC Staff  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
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Dated at Rockville, Maryland  
This 24th day of December, 2015

cc: EIE Service List

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<sup>1</sup> Order (Confirming Matters Addressed at March 4, 2009, Telephone Conference) at 1 (March 5, 2009).

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

In the Matter of )  
 ) Docket No. 40-8943-MLA  
CROW BUTTE RESOURCES, INC. )  
 ) ASLBP No. 07-859-03-MLA-BD01  
(North Trend Expansion Area) )

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing "NRC Staff Letter to the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board" in the above-captioned proceeding have been served via the Electronic Information Exchange ("EIE"), and via email to David Frankel, counsel for Consolidated Intervenors, this 24th day of December, 2015, which to the best of my knowledge resulted in transmittal of the foregoing to those on the EIE Service List for the above-captioned proceeding.

**/Signed (electronically) by/**

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