



# STATE OF NEBRASKA

**Pete Ricketts**  
*Governor*

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**  
**Jim Macy**

*Director*

Suite 400, The Atrium

1200 'N' Street

P.O. Box 98922

Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-8922

Phone (402) 471-2186

FAX (402) 471-2909

website: <http://deq.ne.gov>

**JAN 22 2016**

Mr. Ron Burrows  
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
11154 Rockville Pike  
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear Mr. Burrows:

The attached letter was sent to Cameco on January 5, 2016 by the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality. Your copy was accidentally sent to a wrong address. Please find the enclosed copy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nancy Harris".

Nancy Harris  
UIC/ME Program Coordinator  
Water Quality Assessment Section



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Brent Berg, President  
Crow Butte Resources, Inc.  
Cameco Resources  
550 N. Poplar St., Suite 100  
Casper, Wyoming 82601

JAN 05 2016

Dear Mr. Berg:

On December 16, 2015, the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) received a request from Crow Butte Resources, Inc. (CBR) to replace Mine Unit 5 baseline restoration well P-684 with I-1126. This request was made due to downhole equipment becoming stuck in P-684 while preparing the well for a routine 5-year mechanical integrity test. P-684 was abandoned on March 20, 2015. In this letter, CBR provided documentation that P-684 is completed and screened in the same zones of the Chadron Formation as I-1126. Additionally, I-1126 is located approximately 63 feet southwest of P-684.

NDEQ has reviewed the baseline water quality data submitted for Mine Unit 4 in 1995, and concurs with CBR's assertion that the baseline water quality data gathered in 1995 from P-684 can be applied to I-1126. Part II.C. of CBR's Class III injection permit (NE0122611) requires at least one baseline restoration well per four acres within the mine unit. This requirement continues to be met if I-1126 is used as a baseline well. No changes to the restoration goals previously approved by NDEQ for Mine Unit 5 are proposed.

The Department has reviewed the well completion reports for both wells and the preoperational ground water quality data associated with all baseline monitoring wells in Mine Unit 5. The Department has determined that I-1126 will make an adequate replacement for P-684 based on physical proximity and similar screen intervals of the two wells. The Department will now consider I-1126 as a baseline restoration well for Mine Unit 5.

Please contact Nancy Harris of my staff at (402) 471-4290 if you have any additional requests or questions concerning the contents of this letter. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Marty Link  
Associate Director

Cc: Larry Teahon, CBR  
Lena Vishni, NDEQ  
Ron Burrows, NRC

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Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-8922

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Ron Burrows

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission

11154 Rockville Pike

Rockville, MD 20850

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