



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

June 22, 2016

Mr. Larry Teahon, Manager  
SHEQ  
Cameco Resources  
Crow Butte Operation  
86 Crow Butte Road  
P.O. Box 169  
Crawford, NE 69339-0169

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ALTERNATE DECOMMISSIONING (GROUNDWATER RESTORATION) SCHEDULE, CROW BUTTE RESOURCES, INC., CRAWFORD, NEBRASKA, SOURCE MATERIALS LICENSE SUA-1534

Dear Mr. Teahon:

By letter dated September 28, 2015, Cameco Resources, Crow Butte Operation (CBO), submitted to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff an update (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML15279A139) to its estimated costs for decommissioning and decontamination (surety estimate) in accordance with License Condition (LC) 9.5. The NRC staff responded to this submittal by letter dated April 14, 2016, with a request for additional information (RAI) (ML16063A029). CBO replied to this RAI by letter dated May 18, 2016 (ML16155A165), and stated that it would provide the requested information prior to October 1, 2016, when it would send the 2017 surety estimate. The NRC staff is considering CBO's May 18, 2016, reply letter.

As a separate matter, CBO's current estimates for ground water restoration (ML15279A139) are not in compliance with approved schedules (refer to LC 10.6 of ML13324A101). In addition, CBO's ground water restoration schedule reflected in its 2016 surety estimate indicates that a formal request to remove mine units (MUs) 2 and 3 from restoration was to occur in the fourth quarter of 2015. As this date has passed, the NRC staff finds that the ground water restoration schedule reflected in its 2016 surety estimate is no longer valid and may not provide a sufficient amount of restoration time for the development of an alternate concentration limit (ACL) application or, alternatively, to reach concentration limits under 10 CFR 40, Appendix A, Criterion 5B(5).

The NRC staff has reviewed information previously submitted by CBO in support of an alternate decommissioning (ground water restoration) schedule for MUs 2-6 by letters dated October 26, 2012 (ML12313A517), and August 8, 2013 (ML13226A353). The NRC staff has no further questions on these submittals.

In accordance with 10 CFR 40.42 and 10 CFR 40.44, please submit a license amendment request on NRC Form 313 for an alternate decommissioning (ground water restoration) schedule for MUs 2-6 to update the schedule reflected in the 2016 surety estimate

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(ML15279A139) with sufficient amount of restoration time for the development of an ACL application, or alternatively, to reach concentration limits under 10 CFR 40, Appendix A, Criterion 5B(5). Please submit this information within 30 days of the date of this letter.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Agency Rules of Practice and Procedure," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of NRC's ADAMS. ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 301-415-6443, or by e-mail at [Ronald.Burrows@nrc.gov](mailto:Ronald.Burrows@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Ronald A. Burrows, Project Manager  
Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch  
Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery,  
and Waste Programs  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 040-8943  
License No. SUA-1534

cc: D. Miesbach, NDEQ  
D. Pavlick, CBR

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**ADAMS Accession No.: ML16173A130**

<b>OFFICE</b>	DUWP/PM	DUWP	DUWP/LA	DUWP/BC	DUWP/PM
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<b>DATE</b>	6/17/16	6/21/16	6/21/16	6/22/16	6/22/16

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