



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 4, 2016

40-8452

Ms. Teanna Limpy, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Northern Cheyenne Tribe
P.O. Box 128
Lame Deer, MT 59043

Subject: Proposed Expansion of Withdrawn Public Land, Bear Creek Disposal Site, Converse County, Wyoming; Section 106 Consultation under National Historic Preservation Act and Notification of the Preparation of an Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act

Dear Ms. Limpy:

The U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management (DOE-LM) is proposing to expand the existing public land withdrawal by approximately 25 acres at the Bear Creek, Wyoming, disposal site in Converse County (see the enclosed map). This proposed expansion requires the completion of a land withdrawal application and the completion of the necessary environmental review documents for processing by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM). In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and its operating regulations at Title 36 *Code of Federal Regulations* Section 800 (36 CFR 800), we have evaluated this project and are providing your office with an opportunity to review and comment upon our conclusions.

DOE-LM is in the process of accepting the approximately 1,000-acre Bear Creek disposal site for custody and long-term care. The property is located in Converse County in north-central Wyoming approximately 1 mile north of the Spook Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act Title I Disposal Site, which is also managed by DOE-LM. This property was formerly known as the Bear Creek Uranium Company (BCUC) mill; the current licensee is Anadarko Petroleum Corporation. BCUC conducted milling operations from 1977 to early 1986. The site includes a disposal cell located in a former impoundment area that has vegetated top slopes and riprap-armored side slopes and drainage channels. The cell covers approximately 163 acres. In general, site conditions are highly disturbed but revegetated with native and adapted grasses and shrubs. The disposal cell is fenced for controlled rangeland uses. Adjacent property owners include private and federal owners including the U.S. Forest Service Thunder Basin National Grasslands. Land in the immediate vicinity is primarily used for ranching, livestock grazing, wildlife habitat, and mineral extraction.

Our conclusion is that the proposed withdrawal of public land from BLM to DOE-LM is defined as an undertaking at 36 CFR 800.16(y). However, historic property found on the surface of the land being withdrawn would continue to be the responsibility of BLM and would continue to benefit from the same protection that it currently receives. The long-term responsibility for the



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Teanna Limpy

-2-

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DOE-LM is also completing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review process for the proposed land withdrawal. In accordance with NEPA implementing regulations [10 CFR § 1021.301(c)], DOE LM is notifying your agency of our intent to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) of this proposed land withdrawal. Your agency will be offered an opportunity to review the EA during the public and agency review portion of the NEPA process.

Please contact me at (970) 248-6484 or william.dam@lm.doe.gov if you have questions regarding this proposed transfer. Please address any correspondence to:

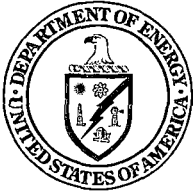
U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Legacy Management
2597 Legacy Way
Grand Junction, CO 81503

Sincerely,


William Dam
Site Manager

Enclosure

cc w/enclosure:
D. Orlando, NRC
P. Benson, DOE-LM (e)
T. Carter, DOE-LM (e)
A. Gil, DOE-LM (e)
M. Kautsky, DOE-LM (e)
T. Ribeiro, DOE-LM (e)
D. Traub, Navarro (e)
J. Trnka, Navarro (e)
File: CNT 0120.02 (rc-grand junction)



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 4, 2016

Mr. Kevin Wright, Acting Chairperson
Lower Brule Lakota Tribal Council
187 Oyate Circle
Lower Brule, SD 57548

Subject: Proposed Expansion of Withdrawn Public Land, Bear Creek Disposal Site, Converse County, Wyoming; Section 106 Consultation under National Historic Preservation Act and Notification of the Preparation of an Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act

Dear Mr. Wright:

The U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management (DOE-LM) is proposing to expand the existing public land withdrawal by approximately 25 acres at the Bear Creek, Wyoming, disposal site in Converse County (see the enclosed map). This proposed expansion requires the completion of a land withdrawal application and the completion of the necessary environmental review documents for processing by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM). In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and its operating regulations at Title 36 *Code of Federal Regulations* Section 800 (36 CFR 800), we have evaluated this project and are providing your office with an opportunity to review and comment upon our conclusions.

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Our conclusion is that the proposed withdrawal of public land from BLM to DOE-LM is defined as an undertaking at 36 CFR 800.16(y). However, historic property found on the surface of the land being withdrawn would continue to be the responsibility of BLM and would continue to benefit from the same protection that it currently receives. The long-term responsibility for the



management of identified historic property on the land surface would remain under BLM. Future DOE-LM activity would continue to be subject to the Section 106 process, which would continue to be coordinated with the BLM. Therefore, it is our conclusion, in accordance with 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1), that this undertaking has *No Potential to Cause Effects*, assuming such historic property was present.

DOE-LM is also completing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review process for the proposed land withdrawal. In accordance with NEPA implementing regulations [10 CFR § 1021.301(c)], DOE LM is notifying your agency of our intent to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) of this proposed land withdrawal. Your agency will be offered an opportunity to review the EA during the public and agency review portion of the NEPA process.

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U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Legacy Management
2597 Legacy Way
Grand Junction, CO 81503

Sincerely,



William Dam
Site Manager

Enclosure

cc w/enclosure:

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D. Traub, Navarro (e)

J. Trnka, Navarro (e)

File: CNT 0120.02 (rc-grand junction)



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 4, 2016

Mr. Russell Eagle Bear, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
P.O. Box 430
Rosebud, SD 57570

Subject: Proposed Expansion of Withdrawn Public Land, Bear Creek Disposal Site, Converse County, Wyoming; Section 106 Consultation under National Historic Preservation Act and Notification of the Preparation of an Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act

Dear Mr. Eagle Bear:

The U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management (DOE-LM) is proposing to expand the existing public land withdrawal by approximately 25 acres at the Bear Creek, Wyoming, disposal site in Converse County (see the enclosed map). This proposed expansion requires the completion of a land withdrawal application and the completion of the necessary environmental review documents for processing by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM). In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and its operating regulations at Title 36 *Code of Federal Regulations* Section 800 (36 CFR 800), we have evaluated this project and are providing your office with an opportunity to review and comment upon our conclusions.

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Our conclusion is that the proposed withdrawal of public land from BLM to DOE-LM is defined as an undertaking at 36 CFR 800.16(y). However, historic property found on the surface of the land being withdrawn would continue to be the responsibility of BLM and would continue to benefit from the same protection that it currently receives. The long-term responsibility for the



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DOE-LM is also completing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review process for the proposed land withdrawal. In accordance with NEPA implementing regulations [10 CFR § 1021.301(c)], DOE LM is notifying your agency of our intent to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) of this proposed land withdrawal. Your agency will be offered an opportunity to review the EA during the public and agency review portion of the NEPA process.

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Sincerely,



William Dam
Site Manager

Enclosure

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D. Traub, Navarro (e)

J. Trnka, Navarro (e)

File: CNT 0120.02 (rc-grand junction)



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 4, 2016

Mr. John Yellow Bird-Steele, President
Oglala Sioux Tribal Council
P.O. Box 2070
Pine Ridge, SD 57770

Subject: Proposed Expansion of Withdrawn Public Land, Bear Creek Disposal Site, Converse County, Wyoming; Section 106 Consultation under National Historic Preservation Act and Notification of the Preparation of an Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act

Dear Mr. Yellow Bird-Steele:

The U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management (DOE-LM) is proposing to expand the existing public land withdrawal by approximately 25 acres at the Bear Creek, Wyoming, disposal site in Converse County (see the enclosed map). This proposed expansion requires the completion of a land withdrawal application and the completion of the necessary environmental review documents for processing by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM). In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and its operating regulations at Title 36 *Code of Federal Regulations* Section 800 (36 CFR 800), we have evaluated this project and are providing your office with an opportunity to review and comment upon our conclusions.

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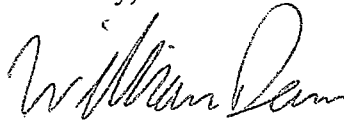
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U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Legacy Management
2597 Legacy Way
Grand Junction, CO 81503

Sincerely,



William Dam
Site Manager

Enclosure

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D. Traub, Navarro (e)

J. Trnka, Navarro (e)

File: CNT 0120.02 (rc-grand junction)



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 4, 2016

Mr. Dave Archambault II, Chairperson
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe of North and South Dakota
P.O. Box D
Fort Yates, ND 58538

Subject: Proposed Expansion of Withdrawn Public Land, Bear Creek Disposal Site, Converse County, Wyoming; Section 106 Consultation under National Historic Preservation Act and Notification of the Preparation of an Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act

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U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Legacy Management
2597 Legacy Way
Grand Junction, CO 81503

Sincerely,



William Dam
Site Manager

Enclosure

cc w/enclosure:

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D. Traub, Navarro (e)

J. Trnka, Navarro (e)

File: CNT 0120.02 (rc-grand junction)



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 4, 2016

Mr. Richard Thomas
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Santee Sioux Nation, Nebraska
108 Spirit Lake Ave. W.
Niobrara, NE 68760

Subject: Proposed Expansion of Withdrawn Public Land, Bear Creek Disposal Site, Converse County, Wyoming; Section 106 Consultation under National Historic Preservation Act and Notification of the Preparation of an Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act

Dear Mr. Thomas:

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U.S. Department of Energy
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2597 Legacy Way
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Sincerely,



William Dam
Site Manager

Enclosure

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File: CNT 0120.02 (rc-grand junction)



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Subject: Proposed Expansion of Withdrawn Public Land, Bear Creek Disposal Site, Converse County, Wyoming; Section 106 Consultation under National Historic Preservation Act and Notification of the Preparation of an Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act

Dear Mr. Yellow Bird-Steele:

The U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management (DOE-LM) is proposing to expand the existing public land withdrawal by approximately 25 acres at the Bear Creek, Wyoming, disposal site in Converse County (see the enclosed map). This proposed expansion requires the completion of a land withdrawal application and the completion of the necessary environmental review documents for processing by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM). In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and its operating regulations at Title 36 *Code of Federal Regulations* Section 800 (36 CFR 800), we have evaluated this project and are providing your office with an opportunity to review and comment upon our conclusions.

DOE-LM is in the process of accepting the approximately 1,000-acre Bear Creek disposal site for custody and long-term care. The property is located in Converse County in north-central Wyoming approximately 1 mile north of the Spook Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act Title I Disposal Site, which is also managed by DOE-LM. This property was formerly known as the Bear Creek Uranium Company (BCUC) mill; the current licensee is Anadarko Petroleum Corporation. BCUC conducted milling operations from 1977 to early 1986. The site includes a disposal cell located in a former impoundment area that has vegetated top slopes and riprap-armored side slopes and drainage channels. The cell covers approximately 163 acres. In general, site conditions are highly disturbed but revegetated with native and adapted grasses and shrubs. The disposal cell is fenced for controlled rangeland uses. Adjacent property owners include private and federal owners including the U.S. Forest Service Thunder Basin National Grasslands. Land in the immediate vicinity is primarily used for ranching, livestock grazing, wildlife habitat, and mineral extraction.

Our conclusion is that the proposed withdrawal of public land from BLM to DOE-LM is defined as an undertaking at 36 CFR 800.16(y). However, historic property found on the surface of the land being withdrawn would continue to be the responsibility of BLM and would continue to benefit from the same protection that it currently receives. The long-term responsibility for the



October 4, 2016

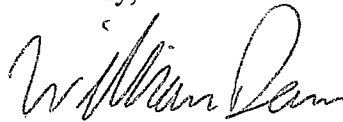
management of identified historic property on the land surface would remain under BLM. Future DOE-LM activity would continue to be subject to the Section 106 process, which would continue to be coordinated with the BLM. Therefore, it is our conclusion, in accordance with 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1), that this undertaking has *No Potential to Cause Effects*, assuming such historic property was present.

DOE-LM is also completing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review process for the proposed land withdrawal. In accordance with NEPA implementing regulations [10 CFR § 1021.301(c)], DOE LM is notifying your agency of our intent to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) of this proposed land withdrawal. Your agency will be offered an opportunity to review the EA during the public and agency review portion of the NEPA process.

Please contact me at (970) 248-6484 or william.dam@lm.doe.gov if you have questions regarding this proposed transfer. Please address any correspondence to:

U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Legacy Management
2597 Legacy Way
Grand Junction, CO 81503

Sincerely,



William Dam
Site Manager

Enclosure

cc w/enclosure:

D. Orlando, NRC

P. Benson, DOE-LM (e)

T. Carter, DOE-LM (e)

A. Gil, DOE-LM (e)

M. Kautsky, DOE-LM (e)

T. Ribeiro, DOE-LM (e)

D. Traub, Navarro (e)

J. Trnka, Navarro (e)

File: CNT 0120.02 (rc-grand junction)



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 4, 2016

Mr. Russell Eagle Bear, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
P.O. Box 430
Rosebud, SD 57570

Subject: Proposed Expansion of Withdrawn Public Land, Bear Creek Disposal Site, Converse County, Wyoming; Section 106 Consultation under National Historic Preservation Act and Notification of the Preparation of an Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act

Dear Mr. Eagle Bear:

The U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management (DOE-LM) is proposing to expand the existing public land withdrawal by approximately 25 acres at the Bear Creek, Wyoming, disposal site in Converse County (see the enclosed map). This proposed expansion requires the completion of a land withdrawal application and the completion of the necessary environmental review documents for processing by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM). In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and its operating regulations at Title 36 *Code of Federal Regulations* Section 800 (36 CFR 800), we have evaluated this project and are providing your office with an opportunity to review and comment upon our conclusions.

DOE-LM is in the process of accepting the approximately 1,000-acre Bear Creek disposal site for custody and long-term care. The property is located in Converse County in north-central Wyoming approximately 1 mile north of the Spook Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act Title I Disposal Site, which is also managed by DOE-LM. This property was formerly known as the Bear Creek Uranium Company (BCUC) mill; the current licensee is Anadarko Petroleum Corporation. BCUC conducted milling operations from 1977 to early 1986. The site includes a disposal cell located in a former impoundment area that has vegetated top slopes and riprap-armored side slopes and drainage channels. The cell covers approximately 163 acres. In general, site conditions are highly disturbed but revegetated with native and adapted grasses and shrubs. The disposal cell is fenced for controlled rangeland uses. Adjacent property owners include private and federal owners including the U.S. Forest Service Thunder Basin National Grasslands. Land in the immediate vicinity is primarily used for ranching, livestock grazing, wildlife habitat, and mineral extraction.

Our conclusion is that the proposed withdrawal of public land from BLM to DOE-LM is defined as an undertaking at 36 CFR 800.16(y). However, historic property found on the surface of the land being withdrawn would continue to be the responsibility of BLM and would continue to benefit from the same protection that it currently receives. The long-term responsibility for the



October 4, 2016

management of identified historic property on the land surface would remain under BLM. Future DOE-LM activity would continue to be subject to the Section 106 process, which would continue to be coordinated with the BLM. Therefore, it is our conclusion, in accordance with 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1), that this undertaking has *No Potential to Cause Effects*, assuming such historic property was present.

DOE-LM is also completing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review process for the proposed land withdrawal. In accordance with NEPA implementing regulations [10 CFR § 1021.301(c)], DOE LM is notifying your agency of our intent to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) of this proposed land withdrawal. Your agency will be offered an opportunity to review the EA during the public and agency review portion of the NEPA process.

Please contact me at (970) 248-6484 or william.dam@lm.doe.gov if you have questions regarding this proposed transfer. Please address any correspondence to:

U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Legacy Management
2597 Legacy Way
Grand Junction, CO 81503

Sincerely,



William Dam
Site Manager

Enclosure

cc w/enclosure:

D. Orlando, NRC

P. Benson, DOE-LM (e)

T. Carter, DOE-LM (e)

A. Gil, DOE-LM (e)

M. Kautsky, DOE-LM (e)

T. Ribeiro, DOE-LM (e)

D. Traub, Navarro (e)

J. Trnka, Navarro (e)

File: CNT 0120.02 (rc-grand junction)



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 4, 2016

Mr. Kevin Wright, Acting Chairperson
Lower Brule Lakota Tribal Council
187 Oyate Circle
Lower Brule, SD 57548

Subject: Proposed Expansion of Withdrawn Public Land, Bear Creek Disposal Site, Converse County, Wyoming; Section 106 Consultation under National Historic Preservation Act and Notification of the Preparation of an Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act

Dear Mr. Wright:

The U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management (DOE-LM) is proposing to expand the existing public land withdrawal by approximately 25 acres at the Bear Creek, Wyoming, disposal site in Converse County (see the enclosed map). This proposed expansion requires the completion of a land withdrawal application and the completion of the necessary environmental review documents for processing by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM). In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and its operating regulations at Title 36 *Code of Federal Regulations* Section 800 (36 CFR 800), we have evaluated this project and are providing your office with an opportunity to review and comment upon our conclusions.

DOE-LM is in the process of accepting the approximately 1,000-acre Bear Creek disposal site for custody and long-term care. The property is located in Converse County in north-central Wyoming approximately 1 mile north of the Spook Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act Title I Disposal Site, which is also managed by DOE-LM. This property was formerly known as the Bear Creek Uranium Company (BCUC) mill; the current licensee is Anadarko Petroleum Corporation. BCUC conducted milling operations from 1977 to early 1986. The site includes a disposal cell located in a former impoundment area that has vegetated top slopes and riprap-armored side slopes and drainage channels. The cell covers approximately 163 acres. In general, site conditions are highly disturbed but revegetated with native and adapted grasses and shrubs. The disposal cell is fenced for controlled rangeland uses. Adjacent property owners include private and federal owners including the U.S. Forest Service Thunder Basin National Grasslands. Land in the immediate vicinity is primarily used for ranching, livestock grazing, wildlife habitat, and mineral extraction.

Our conclusion is that the proposed withdrawal of public land from BLM to DOE-LM is defined as an undertaking at 36 CFR 800.16(y). However, historic property found on the surface of the land being withdrawn would continue to be the responsibility of BLM and would continue to benefit from the same protection that it currently receives. The long-term responsibility for the



management of identified historic property on the land surface would remain under BLM. Future DOE-LM activity would continue to be subject to the Section 106 process, which would continue to be coordinated with the BLM. Therefore, it is our conclusion, in accordance with 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1), that this undertaking has *No Potential to Cause Effects*, assuming such historic property was present.

DOE-LM is also completing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review process for the proposed land withdrawal. In accordance with NEPA implementing regulations [10 CFR § 1021.301(c)], DOE LM is notifying your agency of our intent to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) of this proposed land withdrawal. Your agency will be offered an opportunity to review the EA during the public and agency review portion of the NEPA process.

Please contact me at (970) 248-6484 or william.dam@lm.doe.gov if you have questions regarding this proposed transfer. Please address any correspondence to:

U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Legacy Management
2597 Legacy Way
Grand Junction, CO 81503

Sincerely,



William Dam
Site Manager

Enclosure

cc w/enclosure:

D. Orlando, NRC

P. Benson, DOE-LM (e)

T. Carter, DOE-LM (e)

A. Gil, DOE-LM (e)

M. Kautsky, DOE-LM (e)

T. Ribeiro, DOE-LM (e)

D. Traub, Navarro (e)

J. Trnka, Navarro (e)

File: CNT 0120.02 (rc-grand junction)



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 4, 2016

Ms. Teanna Limpy, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Northern Cheyenne Tribe
P.O. Box 128
Lame Deer, MT 59043

Subject: Proposed Expansion of Withdrawn Public Land, Bear Creek Disposal Site, Converse County, Wyoming; Section 106 Consultation under National Historic Preservation Act and Notification of the Preparation of an Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act

Dear Ms. Limpy:

The U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management (DOE-LM) is proposing to expand the existing public land withdrawal by approximately 25 acres at the Bear Creek, Wyoming, disposal site in Converse County (see the enclosed map). This proposed expansion requires the completion of a land withdrawal application and the completion of the necessary environmental review documents for processing by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM). In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and its operating regulations at Title 36 *Code of Federal Regulations* Section 800 (36 CFR 800), we have evaluated this project and are providing your office with an opportunity to review and comment upon our conclusions.

DOE-LM is in the process of accepting the approximately 1,000-acre Bear Creek disposal site for custody and long-term care. The property is located in Converse County in north-central Wyoming approximately 1 mile north of the Spook Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act Title I Disposal Site, which is also managed by DOE-LM. This property was formerly known as the Bear Creek Uranium Company (BCUC) mill; the current licensee is Anadarko Petroleum Corporation. BCUC conducted milling operations from 1977 to early 1986. The site includes a disposal cell located in a former impoundment area that has vegetated top slopes and riprap-armored side slopes and drainage channels. The cell covers approximately 163 acres. In general, site conditions are highly disturbed but revegetated with native and adapted grasses and shrubs. The disposal cell is fenced for controlled rangeland uses. Adjacent property owners include private and federal owners including the U.S. Forest Service Thunder Basin National Grasslands. Land in the immediate vicinity is primarily used for ranching, livestock grazing, wildlife habitat, and mineral extraction.

Our conclusion is that the proposed withdrawal of public land from BLM to DOE-LM is defined as an undertaking at 36 CFR 800.16(y). However, historic property found on the surface of the land being withdrawn would continue to be the responsibility of BLM and would continue to benefit from the same protection that it currently receives. The long-term responsibility for the




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DOE-LM is also completing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review process for the proposed land withdrawal. In accordance with NEPA implementing regulations [10 CFR § 1021.301(c)], DOE LM is notifying your agency of our intent to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) of this proposed land withdrawal. Your agency will be offered an opportunity to review the EA during the public and agency review portion of the NEPA process.

Please contact me at (970) 248-6484 or william.dam@lm.doe.gov if you have questions regarding this proposed transfer. Please address any correspondence to:

U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Legacy Management
2597 Legacy Way
Grand Junction, CO 81503

Sincerely,


William Dam
Site Manager

Enclosure

cc w/enclosure:

D. Orlando, NRC

P. Benson, DOE-LM (e)

T. Carter, DOE-LM (e)

A. Gil, DOE-LM (e)

M. Kautsky, DOE-LM (e)

T. Ribeiro, DOE-LM (e)

D. Traub, Navarro (e)

J. Trnka, Navarro (e)

File: CNT 0120.02 (rc-grand junction)



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 4, 2016

Mr. Todd Parfitt, Director
Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality
200 West 17th Street
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Subject: Proposed Expansion of Withdrawn Public Land, Bear Creek Disposal Site, Converse County, Wyoming; Notification of the Preparation of an Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act

Dear Mr. Parfitt:

The U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management (DOE-LM) is proposing to expand the existing public land withdrawal by approximately 25 acres at the Bear Creek, Wyoming, disposal site in Converse County (see the enclosed map). This proposed expansion requires the completion of a land withdrawal application and the completion of the necessary environmental review documents for processing by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM). In accordance with National Environmental Policy Act implementing regulations [10 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1021.301(c)], DOE-LM is notifying your state of our intent to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) of this proposed land withdrawal. DOE-LM is requesting that the Department of Environmental Quality of the State of Wyoming participate as a cooperating agency in the development of this EA. In accordance with 10 CFR § 1021.301(d), your agency will be provided with an opportunity to review and comment on the EA prior to DOE-LM approval of the EA regardless of your agency's level of participation.

DOE-LM is in the process of accepting the approximately 1,000-acre Bear Creek disposal site for custody and long-term care. The property is located in Converse County in north-central Wyoming approximately 1 mile north of the Spook Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act Title I Disposal Site, which is also managed by DOE-LM. This property was formerly known as the Bear Creek Uranium Company (BCUC) mill; the current licensee is Anadarko Petroleum Corporation. BCUC conducted milling operations from 1977 to early 1986. The site includes a disposal cell located in a former impoundment area that has vegetated top slopes and riprap-armored side slopes and drainage channels. The cell covers approximately 163 acres. In general, site conditions are highly disturbed but revegetated with native and adapted grasses and shrubs. The disposal cell is fenced for controlled rangeland uses. Adjacent property owners include private and federal owners including the U.S. Forest Service Thunder Basin National Grasslands. Land in the immediate vicinity is primarily used for ranching, livestock grazing, wildlife habitat, and mineral extraction.



Todd Parfitt

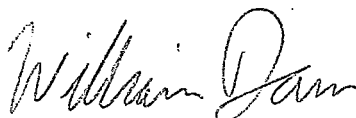
-2-

October 4, 2016

Please contact me at (970) 248-6484 or at william.dam@lm.doe.gov if you have questions regarding this proposed transfer. Please address any correspondence to:

U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Legacy Management
2597 Legacy Way
Grand Junction, CO 81503

Sincerely,



William Dam
Site Manager

Enclosure

cc w/enclosure:

D. Orlando, NRC

P. Benson, DOE-LM (e)

T. Carter, DOE-LM (e)

A. Gil, DOE-LM (e)

M. Kautsky, DOE-LM (e)

T. Ribeiro, DOE-LM (e)

D. Traub, Navarro (e)

J. Trnka, Navarro (e)

File: CNT 0120.02 (rc-grand junction)



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 4, 2016

Mr. Philip Strobel, Director
NEPA Compliance and Review
Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8
1595 Wynkoop Street (8EPR-N)
Denver, CO 80202-1129

Subject: Proposed Expansion of Withdrawn Public Land, Bear Creek Disposal Site, Converse County, Wyoming; Notification of the Preparation of an Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act

Dear Mr. Strobel:

The U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management (DOE-LM) is proposing to expand the existing public land withdrawal by approximately 25 acres at the Bear Creek, Wyoming, disposal site in Converse County (see the enclosed map). This proposed expansion requires the completion of a land withdrawal application and the completion of the necessary environmental review documents for processing by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM). In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act implementing regulations [10 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1021.301(c)], DOE-LM is notifying your state of our intent to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) of this proposed land withdrawal.

DOE-LM is in the process of accepting the approximately 1,000-acre Bear Creek disposal site for custody and long-term care. The property is located in Converse County in north-central Wyoming approximately 1 mile north of the Spook Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act Title I Disposal Site, which is also managed by DOE-LM. This property was formerly known as the Bear Creek Uranium Company (BCUC) mill; the current licensee is Anadarko Petroleum Corporation. BCUC conducted milling operations from 1977 to early 1986. The site includes a disposal cell located in a former impoundment area that has vegetated top slopes and riprap-armored side slopes and drainage channels. The cell covers approximately 163 acres. In general, site conditions are highly disturbed but revegetated with native and adapted grasses and shrubs. The disposal cell is fenced for controlled rangeland uses. Adjacent property owners include private and federal owners including the U.S. Forest Service Thunder Basin National Grasslands. Land in the immediate vicinity is primarily used for ranching, livestock grazing, wildlife habitat, and mineral extraction.



Philip Strobel

-2-

October 4, 2016

Please contact me at (970) 248-6484 or william.dam@lm.doe.gov if you have questions regarding this proposed transfer. Please address any correspondence to:

U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Legacy Management
2597 Legacy Way
Grand Junction, CO 81503

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William Dam". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

William Dam
Site Manager

Enclosure

cc w/enclosure:

D. Orlando, NRC
P. Benson, DOE-LM (e)
T. Carter, DOE-LM (e)
A. Gil, DOE-LM (e)
M. Kautsky, DOE-LM (e)
T. Ribeiro, DOE-LM (e)
D. Traub, Navarro (e)
J. Trnka, Navarro (e)
File: CNT 0120.02 (rc-grand junction)



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 4, 2016

Mr. Rick Grant, Chairman
Converse County Commissioners
107 N. 5th St., Suite 114
Douglas, WY 82633-2448

Subject: Proposed Expansion of Withdrawn Public Land, Bear Creek Disposal Site, Converse County, Wyoming; Notification of the Preparation of an Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act

Dear Mr. Grant:

The U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management (DOE-LM) is proposing to expand the existing public land withdrawal by approximately 25 acres at the Bear Creek, Wyoming, disposal site in Converse County (see the enclosed map). This proposed expansion requires the completion of a land withdrawal application and the completion of the necessary environmental review documents for processing by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM). In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act implementing regulations [10 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1021.301(c)], DOE-LM is notifying your state of our intent to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) of this proposed land withdrawal.

DOE-LM is in the process of accepting the approximately 1,000-acre Bear Creek disposal site for custody and long-term care. The property is located in Converse County in north-central Wyoming approximately 1 mile north of the Spook Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act Title I Disposal Site, which is also managed by DOE-LM. This property was formerly known as the Bear Creek Uranium Company (BCUC) mill; the current licensee is Anadarko Petroleum Corporation. BCUC conducted milling operations from 1977 to early 1986. The site includes a disposal cell located in a former impoundment area that has vegetated top slopes and riprap-armored side slopes and drainage channels. The cell covers approximately 163 acres. In general, site conditions are highly disturbed but revegetated with native and adapted grasses and shrubs. The disposal cell is fenced for controlled rangeland uses. Adjacent property owners include private and federal owners including the U.S. Forest Service Thunder Basin National Grasslands. Land in the immediate vicinity is primarily used for ranching, livestock grazing, wildlife habitat, and mineral extraction.



Rick Grant

-2-

October 4, 2016

Please contact me at (970) 248-6484 or william.dam@lm.doe.gov if you have questions regarding this proposed transfer. Please address any correspondence to:

U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Legacy Management
2597 Legacy Way
Grand Junction, CO 81503

Sincerely,



William Dam
Site Manager

Enclosure

cc w/enclosure:

D. Orlando, NRC

P. Benson, DOE-LM (e)

T. Carter, DOE-LM (e)

A. Gil, DOE-LM (e)

M. Kautsky, DOE-LM (e)

T. Ribeiro, DOE-LM (e)

D. Traub, Navarro (e)

J. Trnka, Navarro (e)

File: CNT 0120.02 (rc-grand junction)



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 4, 2016

Mr. Jim Ogsbury, Executive Director
Western Governors Association
1600 Broadway, Suite 1700
Denver, CO 80202

Subject: Proposed Expansion of Withdrawn Public Land, Bear Creek Disposal Site, Converse County, Wyoming; Notification of the Preparation of an Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act

Dear Mr. Ogsbury:

The U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management (DOE-LM) is proposing to expand the existing public land withdrawal by approximately 25 acres at the Bear Creek, Wyoming, disposal site in Converse County (see the enclosed map). This proposed expansion requires the completion of a land withdrawal application and the completion of the necessary environmental review documents for processing by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM). In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act implementing regulations [10 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1021.301(c)], DOE-LM is notifying your state of our intent to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) of this proposed land withdrawal.

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Jim Ogsbury

-2-

October 4, 2016

Please contact me at (970) 248-6484 or william.dam@lm.doe.gov if you have questions regarding this proposed transfer. Please address any correspondence to:

U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Legacy Management
2597 Legacy Way
Grand Junction, CO 81503

Sincerely,



William Dam
Site Manager

Enclosure

cc w/enclosure:

D. Orlando, NRC

P. Benson, DOE-LM (e)

T. Carter, DOE-LM (e)

A. Gil, DOE-LM (e)

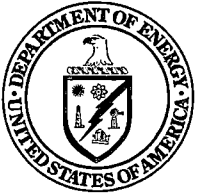
M. Kautsky, DOE-LM (e)

T. Ribeiro, DOE-LM (e)

D. Traub, Navarro (e)

J. Trnka, Navarro (e)

File: CNT 0120.02 (rc-grand junction)



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 4, 2016

Ms. Rose Haroian, Chairwoman
Converse County Planning & Zoning Commission
62 Irvine Rd.
Douglas, WY 82633

Subject: Proposed Expansion of Withdrawn Public Land, Bear Creek Disposal Site, Converse County, Wyoming; Notification of the Preparation of an Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act

Dear Ms. Haroian:

The U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management (DOE-LM) is proposing to expand the existing public land withdrawal by approximately 25 acres at the Bear Creek, Wyoming, disposal site in Converse County (see the enclosed map). This proposed expansion requires the completion of a land withdrawal application and the completion of the necessary environmental review documents for processing by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM). In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act implementing regulations [10 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1021.301(c)], DOE-LM is notifying your state of our intent to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) of this proposed land withdrawal.

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Rose Haroian

-2-

October 4, 2016

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U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Legacy Management
2597 Legacy Way
Grand Junction, CO 81503

Sincerely,



William Dam
Site Manager

Enclosure

cc w/enclosure:

D. Orlando, NRC

P. Benson, DOE-LM (e)

T. Carter, DOE-LM (e)

A. Gil, DOE-LM (e)

M. Kautsky, DOE-LM (e)

T. Ribeiro, DOE-LM (e)

D. Traub, Navarro (e)

J. Trnka, Navarro (e)

File: CNT 0120.02 (rc-grand junction)



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 4, 2016

Ms. Mary Hopkins
Wyoming State Historic Preservation Officer
State Parks & Cultural Resources
Barrett Building 3rd Floor
2301 Central Avenue
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Subject: Proposed Expansion of Withdrawn Public Land, Bear Creek Disposal Site, Converse County, Wyoming; Section 106 Consultation under National Historic Preservation Act and Notification of the Preparation of an Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act

Dear Ms. Hopkins:

The U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management (DOE-LM) is proposing to expand the existing public land withdrawal by approximately 25 acres at the Bear Creek, Wyoming, disposal site in Converse County (see the enclosed map). This proposed expansion requires the completion of a land withdrawal application and the completion of the necessary environmental review documents for processing by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM). In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and its operating regulations at Title 36 *Code of Federal Regulations* Section 800 (36 CFR 800), we have evaluated this project and are providing your office with an opportunity to review and comment upon our conclusions.

DOE-LM is in the process of accepting the approximately 1,000-acre Bear Creek disposal site for custody and long-term care. The property is located in Converse County in north-central Wyoming approximately 1 mile north of the Spook Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act Title I Disposal Site, which is also managed by DOE-LM. This property was formerly known as the Bear Creek Uranium Company (BCUC) mill; the current licensee is Anadarko Petroleum Corporation. BCUC conducted milling operations from 1977 to early 1986. The site includes a disposal cell located in a former impoundment area that has vegetated top slopes and riprap-armored side slopes and drainage channels. The cell covers approximately 163 acres. In general, site conditions are highly disturbed but revegetated with native and adapted grasses and shrubs. The disposal cell is fenced for controlled rangeland uses. Adjacent property owners include private and federal owners including the U.S. Forest Service Thunder Basin National Grasslands. Land in the immediate vicinity is primarily used for ranching, livestock grazing, wildlife habitat, and mineral extraction.

Our conclusion is that the proposed withdrawal of public land from BLM to DOE-LM is defined as an undertaking at 36 CFR 800.16(y). However, historic property found on the surface of the land being withdrawn would continue to be the responsibility of BLM and would continue to benefit from the same protection that it currently receives. The long-term responsibility for the



Mary Hopkins

-2-

October 4, 2016

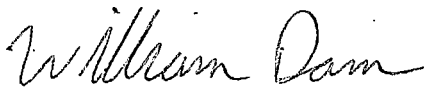
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DOE-LM is also completing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review process for the proposed land withdrawal. In accordance with NEPA implementing regulations [10 CFR § 1021.301(c)], DOE LM is notifying your agency of our intent to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) of this proposed land withdrawal. Your agency will be offered an opportunity to review the EA during the public and agency review portion of the NEPA process.

Please contact me at (970) 248-6484 or at william.dam@lm.doe.gov if you have questions regarding this proposed transfer. Please address any correspondence to:

U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Legacy Management
2597 Legacy Way
Grand Junction, CO 81503

Sincerely,


William Dam
Site Manager

Enclosure

cc w/enclosure:

D. Orlando, NRC

P. Benson, DOE-LM (e)

T. Carter, DOE-LM (e)

A. Gil, DOE-LM (e)

M. Kautsky, DOE-LM (e)

T. Ribeiro, DOE-LM (e)

D. Traub, Navarro (e)

J. Trnka, Navarro (e)

File: CNT 0120.02 (rc-grand junction)



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 4, 2016

Mr. Floyd Azure, Chairperson
Fort Peck Tribal Executive Board
P.O. Box 1027
Poplar, MT 59255

Subject: Proposed Expansion of Withdrawn Public Land, Bear Creek Disposal Site, Converse County, Wyoming; Section 106 Consultation under National Historic Preservation Act and Notification of the Preparation of an Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act

Dear Mr. Azure:

The U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management (DOE-LM) is proposing to expand the existing public land withdrawal by approximately 25 acres at the Bear Creek, Wyoming, disposal site in Converse County (see the enclosed map). This proposed expansion requires the completion of a land withdrawal application and the completion of the necessary environmental review documents for processing by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM). In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and its operating regulations at Title 36 *Code of Federal Regulations* Section 800 (36 CFR 800), we have evaluated this project and are providing your office with an opportunity to review and comment upon our conclusions.

DOE-LM is in the process of accepting the approximately 1,000-acre Bear Creek disposal site for custody and long-term care. The property is located in Converse County in north-central Wyoming approximately 1 mile north of the Spook Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act Title I Disposal Site, which is also managed by DOE-LM. This property was formerly known as the Bear Creek Uranium Company (BCUC) mill; the current licensee is Anadarko Petroleum Corporation. BCUC conducted milling operations from 1977 to early 1986. The site includes a disposal cell located in a former impoundment area that has vegetated top slopes and riprap-armored side slopes and drainage channels. The cell covers approximately 163 acres. In general, site conditions are highly disturbed but revegetated with native and adapted grasses and shrubs. The disposal cell is fenced for controlled rangeland uses. Adjacent property owners include private and federal owners including the U.S. Forest Service Thunder Basin National Grasslands. Land in the immediate vicinity is primarily used for ranching, livestock grazing, wildlife habitat, and mineral extraction.

Our conclusion is that the proposed withdrawal of public land from BLM to DOE-LM is defined as an undertaking at 36 CFR 800.16(y). However, historic property found on the surface of the land being withdrawn would continue to be the responsibility of BLM and would continue to benefit from the same protection that it currently receives. The long-term responsibility for the



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DOE-LM is also completing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review process for the proposed land withdrawal. In accordance with NEPA implementing regulations [10 CFR § 1021.301(c)], DOE LM is notifying your agency of our intent to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) of this proposed land withdrawal. Your agency will be offered an opportunity to review the EA during the public and agency review portion of the NEPA process.

Please contact me at (970) 248-6484 or at william.dam@lm.doe.gov if you have questions regarding this proposed transfer. Please address any correspondence to:

U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Legacy Management
2597 Legacy Way
Grand Junction, CO 81503

Sincerely,



William Dam
Site Manager

Enclosure

cc w/enclosure:

D. Orlando, NRC

P. Benson, DOE-LM (e)

T. Carter, DOE-LM (e)

A. Gil, DOE-LM (e)

M. Kautsky, DOE-LM (e)

T. Ribeiro, DOE-LM (e)

D. Traub, Navarro (e)

J. Trnka, Navarro (e)

File: CNT 0120.02 (rc-grand junction)



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 4, 2016

Mr. Dean Goggles, Chairperson
Northern Arapaho Business Council
P.O. Box 396
Fort Washakie, WY 82514

Subject: Proposed Expansion of Withdrawn Public Land, Bear Creek Disposal Site, Converse County, Wyoming; Section 106 Consultation under National Historic Preservation Act and Notification of the Preparation of an Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act

Dear Mr. Goggles:

The U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management (DOE-LM) is proposing to expand the existing public land withdrawal by approximately 25 acres at the Bear Creek, Wyoming, disposal site in Converse County (see the enclosed map). This proposed expansion requires the completion of a land withdrawal application and the completion of the necessary environmental review documents for processing by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM). In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and its operating regulations at Title 36 *Code of Federal Regulations* Section 800 (36 CFR 800), we have evaluated this project and are providing your office with an opportunity to review and comment upon our conclusions.

DOE-LM is in the process of accepting the approximately 1,000-acre Bear Creek disposal site for custody and long-term care. The property is located in Converse County in north-central Wyoming approximately 1 mile north of the Spook Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act Title I Disposal Site, which is also managed by DOE-LM. This property was formerly known as the Bear Creek Uranium Company (BCUC) mill; the current licensee is Anadarko Petroleum Corporation. BCUC conducted milling operations from 1977 to early 1986. The site includes a disposal cell located in a former impoundment area that has vegetated top slopes and riprap-armored side slopes and drainage channels. The cell covers approximately 163 acres. In general, site conditions are highly disturbed but revegetated with native and adapted grasses and shrubs. The disposal cell is fenced for controlled rangeland uses. Adjacent property owners include private and federal owners including the U.S. Forest Service Thunder Basin National Grasslands. Land in the immediate vicinity is primarily used for ranching, livestock grazing, wildlife habitat, and mineral extraction.

Our conclusion is that the proposed withdrawal of public land from BLM to DOE-LM is defined as an undertaking at 36 CFR 800.16(y). However, historic property found on the surface of the land being withdrawn would continue to be the responsibility of BLM and would continue to benefit from the same protection that it currently receives. The long-term responsibility for the



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U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Legacy Management
2597 Legacy Way
Grand Junction, CO 81503

Sincerely,



William Dam
Site Manager

Enclosure

cc w/enclosure:

D. Orlando, NRC

P. Benson, DOE-LM (e)

T. Carter, DOE-LM (e)

A. Gil, DOE-LM (e)

M. Kautsky, DOE-LM (e)

T. Ribeiro, DOE-LM (e)

D. Traub, Navarro (e)

J. Trnka, Navarro (e)

File: CNT 0120.02 (rc-grand junction)



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 4, 2016

Mr. Eddie Hamilton, Governor
Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, Oklahoma
Cultural Heritage Program
P.O. Box 167
Concho, OK 73022

Subject: Proposed Expansion of Withdrawn Public Land, Bear Creek Disposal Site, Converse County, Wyoming; Section 106 Consultation under National Historic Preservation Act and Notification of the Preparation of an Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act

Dear Mr. Hamilton:

The U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management (DOE-LM) is proposing to expand the existing public land withdrawal by approximately 25 acres at the Bear Creek, Wyoming, disposal site in Converse County (see the enclosed map). This proposed expansion requires the completion of a land withdrawal application and the completion of the necessary environmental review documents for processing by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM). In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and its operating regulations at Title 36 *Code of Federal Regulations* Section 800 (36 CFR 800), we have evaluated this project and are providing your office with an opportunity to review and comment upon our conclusions.

DOE-LM is in the process of accepting the approximately 1,000-acre Bear Creek disposal site for custody and long-term care. The property is located in Converse County in north-central Wyoming approximately 1 mile north of the Spook Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act Title I Disposal Site, which is also managed by DOE-LM. This property was formerly known as the Bear Creek Uranium Company (BCUC) mill; the current licensee is Anadarko Petroleum Corporation. BCUC conducted milling operations from 1977 to early 1986. The site includes a disposal cell located in a former impoundment area that has vegetated top slopes and riprap-armored side slopes and drainage channels. The cell covers approximately 163 acres. In general, site conditions are highly disturbed but revegetated with native and adapted grasses and shrubs. The disposal cell is fenced for controlled rangeland uses. Adjacent property owners include private and federal owners including the U.S. Forest Service Thunder Basin National Grasslands. Land in the immediate vicinity is primarily used for ranching, livestock grazing, wildlife habitat, and mineral extraction.

Our conclusion is that the proposed withdrawal of public land from BLM to DOE-LM is defined as an undertaking at 36 CFR 800.16(y). However, historic property found on the surface of the land being withdrawn would continue to be the responsibility of BLM and would continue to benefit from the same protection that it currently receives. The long-term responsibility for the



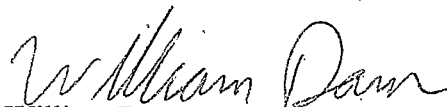
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DOE-LM is also completing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review process for the proposed land withdrawal. In accordance with NEPA implementing regulations [10 CFR § 1021.301(c)], DOE LM is notifying your agency of our intent to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) of this proposed land withdrawal. Your agency will be offered an opportunity to review the EA during the public and agency review portion of the NEPA process.

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U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Legacy Management
2597 Legacy Way
Grand Junction, CO 81503

Sincerely,


William Dam
Site Manager

Enclosure

cc w/enclosure:

D. Orlando, NRC

P. Benson, DOE-LM (e)

T. Carter, DOE-LM (e)

A. Gil, DOE-LM (e)

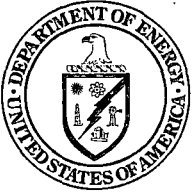
M. Kautsky, DOE-LM (e)

T. Ribeiro, DOE-LM (e)

D. Traub, Navarro (e)

J. Trnka, Navarro (e)

File: CNT 0120.02 (rc-grand junction)



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 4, 2016

Mr. Harold Frazier, Chairperson
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe
P.O. Box 590
Eagle Butte, SD 57625

Subject: Proposed Expansion of Withdrawn Public Land, Bear Creek Disposal Site, Converse County, Wyoming; Section 106 Consultation under National Historic Preservation Act and Notification of the Preparation of an Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act

Dear Mr. Frazier:

The U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management (DOE-LM) is proposing to expand the existing public land withdrawal by approximately 25 acres at the Bear Creek, Wyoming, disposal site in Converse County (see the enclosed map). This proposed expansion requires the completion of a land withdrawal application and the completion of the necessary environmental review documents for processing by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM). In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and its operating regulations at Title 36 *Code of Federal Regulations* Section 800 (36 CFR 800), we have evaluated this project and are providing your office with an opportunity to review and comment upon our conclusions.

DOE-LM is in the process of accepting the approximately 1,000-acre Bear Creek disposal site for custody and long-term care. The property is located in Converse County in north-central Wyoming approximately 1 mile north of the Spook Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act Title I Disposal Site, which is also managed by DOE-LM. This property was formerly known as the Bear Creek Uranium Company (BCUC) mill; the current licensee is Anadarko Petroleum Corporation. BCUC conducted milling operations from 1977 to early 1986. The site includes a disposal cell located in a former impoundment area that has vegetated top slopes and riprap-armored side slopes and drainage channels. The cell covers approximately 163 acres. In general, site conditions are highly disturbed but revegetated with native and adapted grasses and shrubs. The disposal cell is fenced for controlled rangeland uses. Adjacent property owners include private and federal owners including the U.S. Forest Service Thunder Basin National Grasslands. Land in the immediate vicinity is primarily used for ranching, livestock grazing, wildlife habitat, and mineral extraction.

Our conclusion is that the proposed withdrawal of public land from BLM to DOE-LM is defined as an undertaking at 36 CFR 800.16(y). However, historic property found on the surface of the land being withdrawn would continue to be the responsibility of BLM and would continue to benefit from the same protection that it currently receives. The long-term responsibility for the



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Grand Junction, CO 81503

Sincerely,



William Dam
Site Manager

Enclosure

cc w/enclosure:

D. Orlando, NRC

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T. Carter, DOE-LM (e)

A. Gil, DOE-LM (e)

M. Kautsky, DOE-LM (e)

T. Ribeiro, DOE-LM (e)

D. Traub, Navarro (e)

J. Trnka, Navarro (e)

File: CNT 0120.02 (rc-grand junction)



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 4, 2016

Ms. Roxanne Sazue, Chairperson
Crow Creek Lakota Tribal Council
P.O. Box 50
Fort Thompson, SD 57339

Subject: Proposed Expansion of Withdrawn Public Land, Bear Creek Disposal Site, Converse County, Wyoming; Section 106 Consultation under National Historic Preservation Act and Notification of the Preparation of an Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act

Dear Ms. Sazue:

The U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management (DOE-LM) is proposing to expand the existing public land withdrawal by approximately 25 acres at the Bear Creek, Wyoming, disposal site in Converse County (see the enclosed map). This proposed expansion requires the completion of a land withdrawal application and the completion of the necessary environmental review documents for processing by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM). In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and its operating regulations at Title 36 *Code of Federal Regulations* Section 800 (36 CFR 800), we have evaluated this project and are providing your office with an opportunity to review and comment upon our conclusions.

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Our conclusion is that the proposed withdrawal of public land from BLM to DOE-LM is defined as an undertaking at 36 CFR 800.16(y). However, historic property found on the surface of the land being withdrawn would continue to be the responsibility of BLM and would continue to benefit from the same protection that it currently receives. The long-term responsibility for the



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U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Legacy Management
2597 Legacy Way
Grand Junction, CO 81503

Sincerely,



William Dam
Site Manager

Enclosure

cc w/enclosure:

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A. Gil, DOE-LM (e)

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


D. Traub, Navarro (e)

J. Trnka, Navarro (e)

File: CNT 0120.02 (rc-grand junction)



LEGEND

-  DOE Site Boundary (includes fee lands and mineral estate)
-  25 Acres to be Withdrawn
-  Disposal Cell



SCALE IN FEET
0 1,000 2,000

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
OFFICE OF LEGACY MANAGEMENT

Work Performed by
Navarro Research & Engineering, Inc.
Under DOE Contract Number DE-LM0000421

Figure 1
Bear Creek Disposal Site
National Environmental Policy Act
25-Acre Withdrawal

DATE PREPARED: August 11, 2016

FILE NAME: S1464700