



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

February 13, 2017

Mr. Scott Schierman
Sr. Health Safety and Environmental Specialist
Uranium One, USA, Inc.
907 N. Poplar Street, Suite 260
Casper, WY 82601

SUBJECT: URANIUM ONE, USA, INC., WILLOW CREEK PROJECT, REVIEW OF
IRIGARAY MINE UNITS 1-9, FINAL STATUS DECOMMISSIONING REPORT
(TAC NO. L00791)

Dear Mr. Schierman:

By letter dated August 7, 2015, Uranium One, USA, Inc. (Uranium One) submitted the Irigaray Mine Units 1-9 Final Status Decommissioning Report for its Willow Creek Project. The report was made publicly available on August 27, 2015, and was placed in the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) and can be found at ADAMS Accession Package No. ML15231A096.

The NRC staff contractor, Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE), managed by Oak Ridge Associated Universities, performed an onsite confirmatory survey on July 26-28, 2016. The survey included gamma and alpha-plus-beta scans and alpha direct measurements of the two associated buildings and gamma scans of selected areas in Mine Units 1-9, along with the collection of random and judgmental volumetric soil samples. ORISE has completed its final report that can be found in ADAMS at ML17027A224. The data suggest that residual activity remains in the building and shed that exceeds the unrestricted release limit and that ORISE's and U1's data are statistically different. Residual Ra-226 contamination was identified in Mine Unit soils that exceeded the surface and subsurface unrestricted release guidelines. Residual total uranium concentrations were below the surface and subsurface guidelines for all Mine Unit soils sampled.

The NRC staff cannot approve the final surface decommissioning of Irigaray Mine Units 1-9 based on the ORISE report. The NRC staff requests that Uranium One respond to this letter, within 30 days of receipt, with a proposed schedule for completing surface decommissioning. The NRC staff are available to meet with you to discuss the review, as needed.

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 ADAMS. ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

S. Schierman

- 2 -

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact me, either by telephone at (301) 415-7777, or by e-mail at Ron.Linton@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Ron C. Linton, Project Manager
Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch
Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery,
and Waste Programs
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No. 040-08502
License No. SUA-1341

cc: Luke McMahan, PG (WDEQ)
Ryan Schierman, (WDEQ)
Tim Vitkus (ORAU)

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Tim Vitkus (ORAU)

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ADAMS Accession No.:

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