



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

December 15, 2017

Mr. Kevin Wright, Vice Chairman  
Lower Brule Sioux Tribe  
187 Oyate Circle  
Lower Brule, SD 57548

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL  
ASSESSMENT FOR THE MARSLAND IN SITU URANIUM RECOVERY  
PROJECT LICENSE AMENDMENT APPLICATION  
(DOCKET NUMBER: 40-8943)

Dear Vice Chairman Wright:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff is reviewing a request for an amendment to Source Materials License SUA-1534 that would authorize Crow Butte Resources, Inc. (the licensee) to construct and operate an in-situ uranium recovery satellite facility at the proposed Marsland Expansion Area in Dawes County, Nebraska.

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, the NRC staff has prepared a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) to document its environmental review of the amendment request. The draft EA includes a description of the proposed action and the affected environment, along with the NRC staff's preliminary determinations regarding the potential environmental impacts should the license amendment be granted.

The NRC staff is enclosing the draft EA on CD ROM for your review and comment. The draft EA can also be accessed online at: <https://www.nrc.gov/public-involve/doc-comment.html> or through the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management Systems (ADAMS) at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. The Accession Number for the draft EA is ML17334A870. Upon your request, the NRC staff will provide a paper copy of the draft EA for your review and comment.

Please provide any information, comments, or concerns you may have on the draft EA during the comment period, which ends on January 29, 2018. Comments can be submitted by:

- Email to [CBRMarslandEA.Resource@nrc.gov](mailto:CBRMarslandEA.Resource@nrc.gov),
- Online at <http://www.regulations.gov> under Docket ID NRC-2012-0281, or
- Mail to Ms. May Ma, Office of Administration, Mail Stop: OWFN-2-A13, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852 (include Docket ID NRC-2012-0281 in the subject line).

In addition, copies of the draft EA will be available at public libraries located at 601 2<sup>nd</sup> St., Crawford, NE, and 507 Bordeaux Street, Chadron, NE. The NRC staff will consider your comments when finalizing the EA.

K. Wright

- 2 -

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Ms. Jean Trefethen, Project Manager, by phone at 301-415-0867, or via e-mail at [Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov](mailto:Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Brian W. Smith, Acting Director  
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety, Safeguards,  
and Environmental Review  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No.: 40-8943  
License No.: SUA-1534

Enclosure:  
Draft Environmental Assessment (CD ROM)

cc w/o enclosure:  
Dr. Brian Molyneaux, Tribal Archaeologist

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE MARSLAND IN SITU RECOVERY PROJECT LICENSE AMENDMENT APPLICATION (DOCKET NUMBER-40-8943)

DATED: December 15, 2017

**ADAMS Accession Number ML17346A781**

<b>OFFICE</b>	<b>FCSE/ERB</b>	<b>FCSE/ERB</b>	<b>FCSE/ERB</b>	<b>FCSE</b>
<b>NAME</b>	JTrefethen	AWalkerSmith	CRomán	BSmith
<b>DATE</b>	12/12/2017	12/12/2017	12/12/2017	12/15/2017

**OFFICIAL RECORD COPY**