



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

March 22, 2018

Mr. Walter Nelson
Coordinator, Safety, Health,
Environment & Quality
Cameco Resources
Crow Butte Operation
86 Crow Butte Road
Post Office Box 169
Crawford, NE 69339-0169

SUBJECT: U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION REQUEST FOR UPDATED
PROJECT SCHEDULE FOR NORTH TREND EXPANSION AREA
AMENDMENT, CROW BUTTE RESOURCES, INC., CRAWFORD, NEBRASKA

Dear Mr. Nelson:

On February 9, 2018, Cameco Resources, Inc., announced that it plans to discontinue U.S. operations, including operations at the Crow Butte ISR facility. The purpose of this letter is to request information on the effect, if any, of that announcement on the NRC staff's review of the license amendment application for the North Trend Expansion Area (NTEA).

By letter dated December 16, 2015 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML16004A031), Cameco Resources Crow Butte Operation (Cameco) confirmed discussions with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff regarding the sequencing of the staff's reviews for the North Trend Expansion Area (NTEA) and Marsland Expansion Area (MEA) license amendment applications. That letter included a request for NRC staff to "...discontinue work on the NTEA application and focus all its available resources in order to accelerate its reviews of the Marsland project."

As you are aware, the licensing action for the MEA project is scheduled to be completed in May 2018. Therefore, the NRC staff requests an updated project schedule for the NTEA by April 30, 2018 (i.e., whether and when the NRC staff should continue its review of the NTEA application) in order to ensure the necessary budgetary resources are available for this work.

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* part 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>.

W. Nelson

2

If you have any questions, please contact me at 301-415-6443, or by e-mail at 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. 40-8943
License No. SUA-1534

cc: D. Pavlick, CBR

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