G. Paul Bollwerk, III, Chair Administrative Judge Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel Mail Stop T-3 F23 U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555-0001 Dr. Fred W. Oliver Administrative Judge Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel Mail Stop T-3 F23 U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555-0001

In the Matter of CROW BUTTE RESOURCES, INC.
(License Amendment for the North Trend Expansion Project)
Docket No. 40-8943; ASLBP No. 07-859-03-MLA-BD01

Dear Administrative Judges:

On January 12, 2016, the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board ("Board") directed the NRC staff ("Staff") to provide, within 10 days of the issuance of the last Staff licensing review document in the Crow Butte Marsland Expansion Area (MEA) proceeding, "an estimate of when the staff believes it will be able to give the Board a new estimate for the completion dates for the staff's draft and final environmental review documents in [the North Trend] proceeding." On April 30, 2018, the Staff notified the MEA licensing board of the availability of the Staff's final Environmental Assessment for the MEA.²

With this letter, the Staff is notifying the Board that the North Trend environmental review remains suspended at the request of the applicant.³ Accordingly, the Staff is unable to provide estimated completion dates for the draft or final environmental review documents at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

Signed (electronically) by

David M. Cylkowski
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Dated at Rockville, Maryland This 2nd day of May, 2018

cc: EIE Service List

¹ Memorandum and Order (Regarding NRC Staff License Review Scheduling Status Reports) at 2 (January 12, 2016) (unpublished).

² Letter from Marcia J. Simon, NRC Staff Counsel, to MEA Licensing Board (April 30, 2018).

³ Letter from Walter Nelson, Cameco Resources, to Director, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, NRC, April 4, 2018 (ADAMS Accession No. ML18102A537).

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

In the Matter of)
) Docket No. 40-8943-MLA
CROW BUTTE RESOURCES, INC.)
) ASLBP No. 07-859-03-MLA-BD01
(North Trend Expansion Area))

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing "NRC Staff Letter to the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board" in the above-captioned proceeding have been served via the Electronic Information Exchange ("EIE") this 2nd day of May, 2018, which to the best of my knowledge resulted in transmittal of the foregoing to those on the EIE Service List for the above-captioned proceeding.

/Signed (electronically) by/ David M. Cylkowski Counsel for the NRC Staff U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Office of the General Counsel Mail Stop: O14-A44 Washington, D.C. 20555-0001 (301) 287-9125 david.cylkowski@nrc.gov