



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

PDR-DCS

NOV 12 1980

WMUR:DEM  
Docket No. 40-8745

Ogle Petroleum, Inc.  
ATTN: Mr. Glenn J. Catchpole  
Project Manager  
150 North Nichols Avenue  
Casper, Wyoming 82601

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DISTRIBUTION  
SERVICES UNIT  
IS NRC  
REGISTRATION SERVICES  
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Gentlemen:

Your letter of October 8, 1980, requested NRC authorization to commence drilling of injection and recovery wells in Mining Unit No. 1 of the Bison Basin Project, pursuant to 10 CFR 40.14(b). Published NRC final regulation changes (45 FR 65521), which will soon be effective, abolish 10 CFR 40.14(b), under which exemptions to the requirements of 10 CFR 40.32(e) could be granted under certain conditions. These same regulation changes also modify §40.32(e). Accordingly, and at NRC discretion, your request has been reviewed under the provisions of 10 CFR 40.14(a), which remains unchanged.

As a result of this review, and pursuant to 10 CFR 40.14(a), Ogle Petroleum, Inc. is hereby granted an exemption to the requirements of 10 CFR 40.32(e), for the purpose of drilling and completing no more than 100 wells in Mining Unit No. 1 of the Bison Basin Project, NRC Docket No. 40-8745, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) Any activities conducted pursuant to this authorization shall be conducted in full accord with all stipulations, representations, and statements in the Source Material License Application and associated Environmental Report.
- (b) Ogle Petroleum, Inc. shall verbally notify the NRC and the Wyoming State Archaeologist, within one regular working day, when any artifacts of earlier culture are encountered, and shall immediately cease all activity within 100 meters of such artifacts.
- (c) All well drilling and completion wastes, including drill cuttings, spent drilling mud, tools, and equipment, shall be disposed in accordance with the requirements for disposal of similar wastes produced by well drilling and completion within the operating 1-acre R&D facility. Drill cuttings originating from the ore zone which will have elevated radioactivity levels shall be segregated and disposed of, with other facility radioactive solid wastes, in an existing, licensed radioactive waste or conventional tailings facility. Until such wastes are removed from the Bison Basin site, they shall be stabilized.

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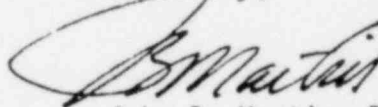
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- (d) All activities conducted pursuant to this authorization shall be conducted in a manner so as to reduce or minimize environmental impacts.
- (e) Any capital invested or committed by the applicant, for any activities conducted pursuant to this authorization, shall be solely at the applicant's discretion and risk, and shall not be considered whatsoever in any subsequent licensing evaluation or determination made by the NRC.
- (f) The deep monitor well which is to be drilled and placed pursuant to NRC letter to Ogle of September 8, 1980, and subsequent guidance from this staff, shall be installed within one week of the commencement of drilling pursuant to this authorization. The pump test data, and other information, analyses, and evaluations relative to the deep monitor well called for in the NRC letter, shall be submitted to the NRC Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch within 52 days of the commencement of drilling conducted pursuant to this authorization.

Please be aware that this authorization does not authorize connecting of new wells, expansion of processing capability or maximum processing flow rate, or the injection or recovery of lixiviant in any of the new wells.

Should you desire to further discuss this matter, please contact Mr. Dan E. Martin of my staff at 301-427-4115.

Sincerely,



John B. Martin, Director  
Division of Waste Management  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards