

Docket 40-4492

PDR

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D. CRAMER
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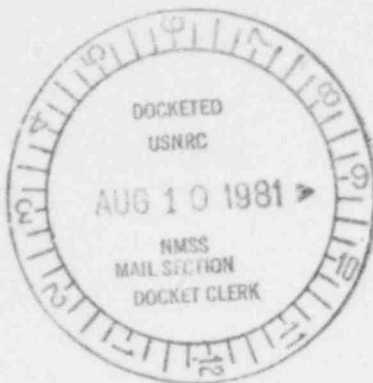
OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

OPERATED BY
UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION
NUCLEAR DIVISION



POST OFFICE BOX X
OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE 37830

July 27, 1981



Don W. Minnich, Regional Director
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Region VI
P.O. Box 25486
Denver Federal Center
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Sir:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has asked me to write on its behalf concerning the possible occurrence of listed or proposed endangered and threatened species in the Gas Hills District of Wyoming. Federal-American Partners, Inc. has applied to NRC for a relicensing for their uranium mill located about 50 miles east of Riverton at the location shown on the attached map and described in the accompanying project summary.

This letter constitutes a formal request for consultation with, and the assistance of, the Department of the Interior with the NRC in furtherance of the purposes of the Endangered Species Act as amended in 1978. Pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Act, please forward information as to whether any listed or proposed plants and animals may be present on the project site or the immediate vicinity. If there are, please also advise of any suggestions or recommendations that would facilitate further interagency cooperation as required in the Act.

If you have any further questions regarding this request you may contact me directly at 615-574-7395 (FTS: 624-7395) or, if no answer, at 574-7329.

Sincerely,

J. Warren Webb, Ph.D.
Staff Ecologist
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES DIVISION

JWW:ikm

Attachments

cc: J. S. Baldwin, ORNL
D. M. Gillen, NRC ✓

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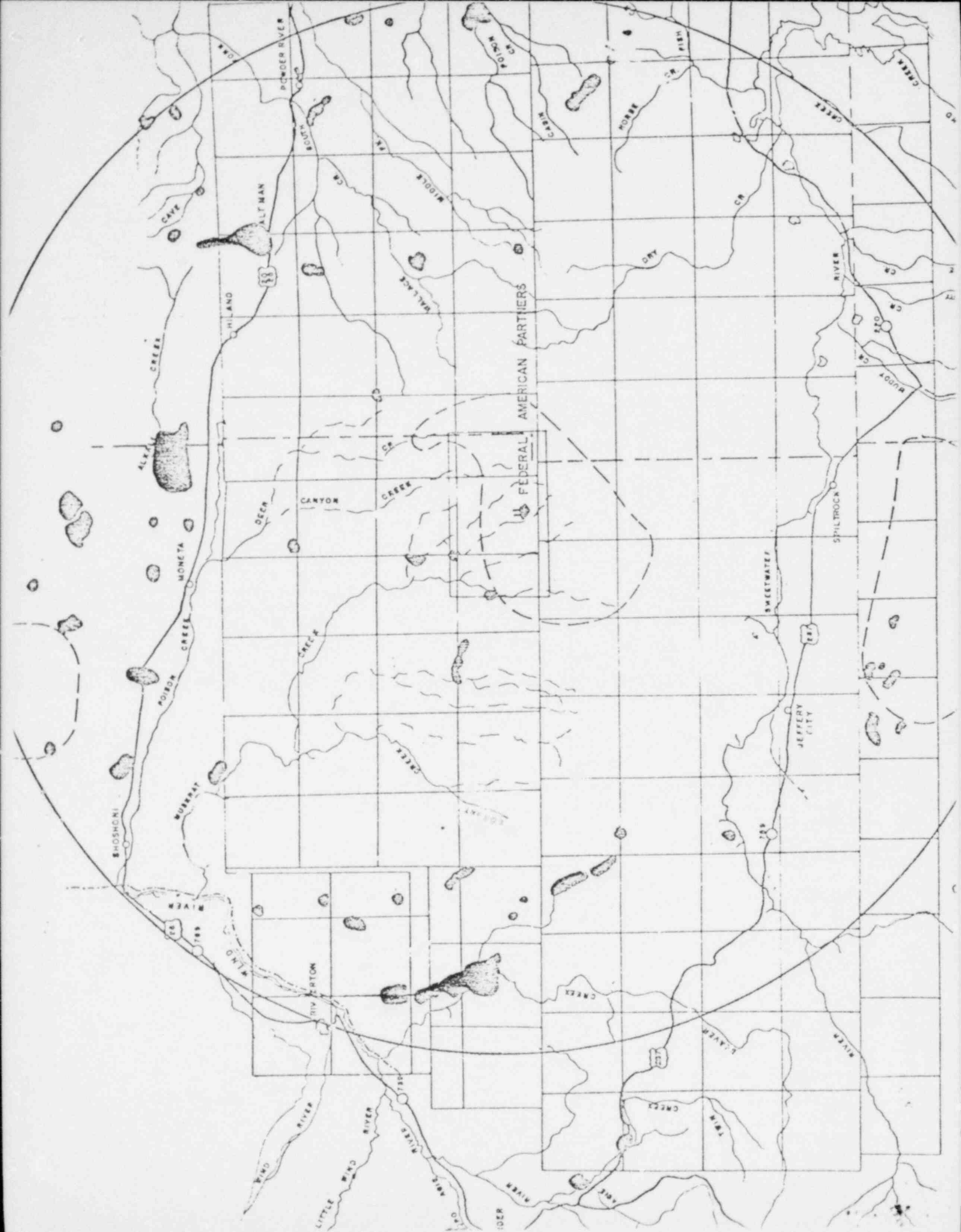
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FEE EXEMPT

10255

Add'l Info



2. THE SITE

This section gives a baseline description of the physical, socioeconomic and cultural environment that might be affected by the Gas Hills project. Figure 2.1-1 shows the location of the site with respect to the nearest cities, towns, and highways within Wyoming.

2.1 SITE LOCATION AND LAYOUT

The mill is located in the south half of section 28 and the north half of section 33 of Township 33 north, range 90 west of the 6th principal meridian, Puddle Springs quadrangle, Fremont County, Wyoming. The site is approximately 80 kilometers (50 miles) east of Riverton, 40 kilometers (25 miles) north of Jeffery City, and 128 kilometers (80 miles) west of Casper, Wyoming. Figure 2.1-1 shows the location within this area.

The general region in which the mill is located is used primarily for mining, mineral exploration, livestock grazing, and as a wildlife range. The area is characterized by rolling terrain, broken by dry washes typical of the Wyoming high plains. Elevation at the mill site is 2,012 meters (6,490 feet) above sea level.

The FAP mill facilities encompass ¹⁴⁴~~142~~ hectares (³⁵⁵~~265~~ acres) which include tailings disposal areas. This area is protected by a four-strand barbwire fence. Entrance to the property is via roads to the parking area and then by the main office to the mill property. Entrance to the tailings area is either through the mill yard or a locked gate.