

PDR - Return
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WYOMING
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
CHEYENNE

August 26, 1982

04008781011E

ED HERSCHLER
GOVERNOR



40-8781



Mr. Ross A. Scarano, Chief
Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Scarano:

The draft environmental statement related to the operation of the Teton Uranium Project in Converse County, Wyoming (Docket No. 40-8781) has been circulated for state agency review. Copies of agency comments are enclosed for your consideration and use.

The environmental analysis supports the issuance of a combined Source and Byproduct Material License, subject to specific licensing conditions and conformity with other local, state and federal standards and regulations. Several of the necessary state permits have already been issued. However, since Teton has opted not to commence "mining" at this time, these permits may require extension or re-approval by the time the operation begins. The applicant should keep the pertinent state agencies abreast of the actual development and operation plans, to avoid unnecessary delay in starting up the project.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this document. Please keep me informed of the progress in this effort.

Yours sincerely,
E. Herschler

EH:pcl
Enclosures

FEE EXEMPT

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Comment 11

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THE STATE

OF WYOMING

ED HERSCHLER
GOVERNOR

Department of Environmental Quality
Water Quality Division

1111 EAST LINCOLNWAY

CHEYENNE, WYOMING 82002

TELEPHONE 307 777-7781

MEMORANDUM

TO: Robert E. Sundin, Director, DEQ
THROUGH: William L. Garland, Administrator, WQD *WLG*
FROM: A.J. Mancini, Groundwater Supervisor, WQD *ajm*
DATE: July 15, 1982
SUBJECT: Comments on Draft ES Related to the Operation of the Teton
Project, NUREG-0925 (NRC Docket No. 40-8781)

Comments are not provided because the DEQ has already permitted the ISL operation, and WQD has permitted pond construction.

Even though DEQ permits have been issued, Teton has opted not to commence 'mining' at this time. When and if Teton does want to begin the ISL operation, Teton will have to receive prior DEQ approval.

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AUG 04 1982

State Engineer's Office

BARRETT BUILDING

CHEYENNE, WYOMING 82002

MEMORANDUM

August 4, 1982

TO: State Planning Coordinator

FROM: Richard G. Stockdale, Ground Water Geologist, State Engineer's Office

SUBJECT: Review of Draft Environmental Statement for Teton Project,
Teton Exploration Drilling, Inc. (State Identifier No. 82-134)

A review of the subject Environmental Statement has revealed the following:

- (1) It appears that appropriate permits have been obtained through the State Engineer's Office for the Water facilities. It was noted, however, that some permits expire at the end of 1983. Extensions of time may be needed if the project is not completed by the expiration date of the permits.
- (2) The report indicates that approximately 645 ac-ft of water will be utilized during the life of the project. The report is unclear, however, as to whether additional water would be needed for aquifer restoration in addition to the 645 ac-ft.
- (3) It should be noted that the necessity for protecting existing water rights, or the compensation and/or the providing of an alternate water supply if there is injury, must be considered.

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THE STATE

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Game and Fish Department

CHEYENNE, WYOMING 82002

EARL M. THOMAS
DIRECTOR

July 23, 1982

EIS 801/L3 USNRC
Teton Project Docket No. 40-8781
Converse County

Mr. Dick Hartman
State Planning Coordinator
2320 Capitol Avenue
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002

Dear Dick:

In our letter of June 18, 1981 relating to the scoping of this project we recommended that two issues be addressed prior to approval of the proposed project.

1. Impacts on North Platte River.
2. Relationship between the proposed monitoring plan and plans to correct any potential problems or impacts to fish and wildlife.

Though these issues were addressed, fish and wildlife concerns were only covered in a perfunctory manner.

P. 4-27, 4-28 stated that if a pond fails and the contents reach the North Platte River, the impacts on water quality would "probably" not be serious. It further states that only TDS would likely exceed the Wyoming DEQ criteria for wildlife and livestock (5,000 mg/L). Since more definite impacts on water quality are not known (it is dependent on soil conditions and weather), maybe there should be some mention of the impacts on the fish and wildlife of the river if the worst possible water quality alterations were to occur.

P. 4-45. The draft states that if a spill reached Little Sand Creek, the applicant would be required to clean up the contaminated materials and dispose of them in the evaporation reservoir or in an off-site licensed disposal facility.

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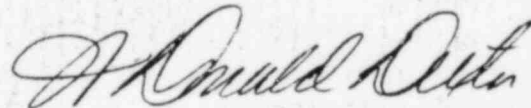
Mr. Dick Hartman
July 22, 1982
Page 2, EIS 801/L3

This would evidently involve considerable ground and soil disturbance to Little Sand Creek itself and to its drainage basin. The occurrence of a runoff event could cause considerable increase in erosion of the drainage basin and a subsequent increased sediment load to the North Platte River. The possible impact this could have to the fisheries of the North Platte River should be addressed. To cover the possibility of such an event, plans are needed for immediate revegetation and stabilization of the watershed.

P. 4-10. The applicant is committed to sampling Little Sand Creek quarterly, or when surface water is flowing, at three locations: (1) Upstream from the permit area, (2) within the permit area upstream of the windmill, and (3) downstream from the windmill at the stock pond. Since the waters of Little Sand Creek would eventually flow to the North Platte River, there should be some mitigating measure in the event it is found that the creek is being contaminated by the operation. The present draft contains no cleanup plan or corrective measure, but only a plan for sampling of the creek.

Comments are offered to help make the final EI more complete and accurate in considering the wildlife resources. Please contact us if we may be of further help.

Sincerely,



W. DONALD DEXTER, DIRECTOR,
WYOMING GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

WDD:HBM:mlr

cc: Game Division
cc: Fish Division

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JUL 20 1982

THE STATE

OF WYOMING

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GOVERNOR

Wyoming Recreation Commission

1920 THOMES

CHEYENNE, WYOMING 82002

JAN L. WILSON

Director

777-7595

July 16, 1982

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900 Foyer Avenue
Cheyenne 82001

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P.O. Box 216
Thayne 83127

ALBERT PILCH

P.O. Box AF
Evanston 82930

DAN MADIA

1017 Victoria
Sheridan 82801

Mr. Dick Hartman
State Planning Coordinator
2320 Capitol Avenue
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002

Dear Mr. Hartman:

The Draft ES related to the Operation of the Teton Project was received in this office on July 13, 1982. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to review the report.

Enclosed is a memorandum from our staff archeologist who reviewed the materials. He indicates that provision must be made for cultural resources. Therefore, the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) recommends cultural clearance for the purposes of applicable state and federal laws only if the archeologist's recommendations are followed. In the event that his recommendations are not followed, clearance will be void.

If you have any questions concerning these recommendations please contact the appropriate member of our staff.

Sincerely,

Mark Junge, Deputy
State Historic Preservation Officer

FOR:

Jan L. Wilson, Director and
State Historic Preservation Officer

MGJ:klm
Encls.

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TELEPHONES:
(307) 742-2064
(307) 766-2286

DEPUTY DIRECTOR AND
STAFF GEOLOGIST
GARY B. GLASS
STAFF GEOLOGISTS
JAMES C. CASE
RODNEY H. DE BRUIN
W. DAN HAUSEL
ALAN J. VER PLOEG
TECHNICAL EDITOR
DAVID A. COPELAND

THE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF WYOMING

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August 9, 1982

Dick Hartman
State Planning Coordinator
Wyoming State Clearinghouse
2320 Capitol Avenue
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002

Dear Mr. Hartman:

Ray Harris, Staff Minerals Geologist, has reviewed the draft E.I.S. for the Operation of the Teton Project--Teton Exploration Drilling, Inc. (State I.D. No. 82-134) and his comments are attached.

If you need further information on any of the comments, please let me know.

Sincerely,

James C. Case

James C. Case
Staff Environmental Geologist

JCC/nb
Encl.

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Geology--Interpreting the past to provide for the future

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WYOMING RECREATION COMMISSION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

REVIEW AND COMPLIANCE

04008781011E

Interdisciplinary Staff Comments

Archeology • History • Historical Architecture • Recreation Planning

TO: Mark Junge, Chief
FROM: Richard Bryant, Archeological Compliance Officer RB
DATE: July 16, 1982 (district #7)
RE: Draft ES related to the Operation of the Teton Projects
(NW of Douglas) A-95/82-134

The Draft EA incorporates the concerns of the Wyoming SHPO and makes provision for protection of the cultural resources in the project area. If the stipulations for cultural resource site protection are fulfilled, we have no objections to the project and recommend cultural resource clearance.

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THE STATE



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OF WYOMING

Ed Herschler, Governor

Leno Menghini, Superintendent and Chief Engineer

Wyoming State Highway Department

P. O. BOX 1708

CHEYENNE, WYOMING 82002-9019

July 16, 1982

EIS Comments
Teton Project
State ID 82-134

Mr. Dick Hartman
State Planning Coordinator
Wyoming State Clearinghouse
2320 Capitol Avenue
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Mr. Hartman:

We have reviewed the Draft EIS for the Teton project and offer the following comments.

1. There should be little or not impact on traffic operation of State Highways in the area.
2. There is not sufficient information to determine if there are likely to be other impacts. More information is needed to determine whether there is likely to be subsidence along or near the road; or whether leaks, spills or other drainage could affect the highway roadside. A good site location map would, perhaps, answer most of these questions.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William P. King".

William P. King, P. E.
Environmental Services Engineer

WPK/mg

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