

January 4, 2021

Michael M. Gibson, Chairman
Administrative Judge
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel
Mail Stop T-3 F23
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Gary S. Arnold
Administrative Judge
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel
Mail Stop T-3 F23
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

G. Paul Bollwerk, III
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 Renewal for the In Situ Leach Facility, Crawford, Nebraska)
Docket No. 40-8943; ASLBP No. 08-867-02-OLA-BD01

Dear Administrative Judges,

In its Partial Initial Decision (LBP-16-7) issued May 26, 2016, the Board directed the NRC Staff to submit monthly status reports updating the Board and parties as to the status of the Staff's curative actions in response to the Board's resolution of Contention 1.

Following the status conference on November 18, 2020, the Staff is continuing to evaluate and develop the path forward for curing the deficiencies associated with its review of cultural resources at the Crow Butte site. The Staff and the Oglala Sioux Tribe Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) have scheduled an initial virtual meeting on January 7, 2021, to make introductions and begin discussing the path forward for identifying tribal cultural resources. The Staff is also considering the possibility of an "orientation" site visit for the THPO and one or two other representatives of the Tribe during the winter, as suggested by Mr. Reid at the November 18, 2020 teleconference.¹ The Staff has reached out to the licensee regarding the feasibility of such a visit given the current COVID-19 public health emergency, and intends to discuss the idea with the THPO on January 7.

The Staff will submit its next monthly status report by February 1, 2021, in accordance with the Board's mandate.

¹ Tr. at 2717-18.

Gibson
Arnold
Bollwerk

Respectfully submitted,

Signed (electronically) by

Marcia J. Simon

Counsel for the NRC Staff

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

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Dated January 4, 2021.

cc: EIE Service List

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

In the Matter of)	
)	
CROW BUTTE RESOURCES, INC.)	Docket No. 40-8943
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(License Renewal for the In Situ Leach)	ASLBP No. 08-867-02-OLA-BD01
Facility, Crawford, Nebraska))	

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing "NRC STAFF'S LETTER TO THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD" in the above captioned proceeding have been served this 4th day of January, 2021, via the NRC's Electronic Information Exchange ("EIE"), 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
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