



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

September 23, 2021

Mr. Michael Blackwolf  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Fort Belknap Indian Community of  
the Fort Belknap Reservation of  
Montana 656 Agency Main Street  
Harlem, MT 59526-9455

SUBJECT: WESTERN NUCLEAR INC. – EVALUATION OF THE WYOMING COMPLETION  
REVIEW REPORT

Dear Mr. Blackwolf:

We are sending you this letter because we identified your Tribe as being potentially interested in the license termination of the Western Nuclear, Inc. (WNI) Split Rock uranium milling site located in Fremont County, Wyoming. In a letter to your Tribe dated October 30, 2020,<sup>1</sup> the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff explained the process and review activities for the termination of the license by the State of Wyoming and transfer of the site to the Department of Energy (DOE) for the long-term care and maintenance. The letter also stated that the NRC would inform you of the final results of the NRC's evaluation of the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (WYDEQ) Completion Review Report (CRR).

The purpose of this letter is to inform your Tribe that the NRC staff has completed its review of the CRR for the Wyoming Source Material License No. WYSUA-0056 issued to WNI. As discussed in more detail in NRC's letter to WYDEQ dated August 3, 2021,<sup>2</sup> the NRC staff found that the license termination activities at the WNI site has met all applicable standards and requirements for the protection of the public health, safety and environment based on NRC's evaluation in the CRR and review of the WYDEQ's uranium recovery program. This finding is a necessary step toward the termination of the WNI license. Upon acceptance of the DOE's Long-Term Surveillance Plan, conveyance of needed property rights, and the setting and payment of the Long-Term Care Fee, the NRC will concur on the CRR. Following concurrence on the CRR, Wyoming may proceed to terminate the license for the Split Rock site, including any final site configuration (such as plugging and abandoning wells) not necessary for DOE's long-term ground water monitoring program.

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<sup>1</sup> Agencywide Document Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML20303A205.

<sup>2</sup> ADAMS Accession No. ML21106A181.

M. Blackwolf

- 2 -

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Jeffrey Whited via email at [Jeffrey.Whited@nrc.gov](mailto:Jeffrey.Whited@nrc.gov) or via telephone at 301-415-4090.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Signed by Arribas-Colon, Maria  
on 09/23/21

Maria Arribas-Colon, Chief  
Materials Safety and Tribal Liaison Branch  
Division of Materials Safety, Security, State  
and Tribal Programs  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 40-1162

cc: Andrew Werk, Jr., President  
RR 1, Box 66  
656 Agency Main Street  
Harlem, MT 59526

WESTERN NUCLEAR INC. – EVALUATION OF THE WYOMING COMPLETION REVIEW REPORT  
DATE September 23, 2021

DISTRIBUTION:

**ADAMS Accession No.: ML21242A126; ML21242A130**

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