

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

October 6, 2021

Mr. Kyle Wendtland, Administrator Land Quality Division Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality 200 West 17th Street Chevenne, WY 82002

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON THE STATUS OF THE

REVIEW FOR THE WESTERN NUCLEAR INCORPORATED LICENSE

TERMINATION

Dear Mr. Wendtland:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am writing in response to your letter dated August 10, 2021, concerning the status of the NRC's reviews associated with the Western Nuclear Incorporated (WNI) Split Rock former uranium mill in Jeffery City, WY (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML21229A243). Specifically, your letter requested information concerning the NRC's review of the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality's (WDEQ's) completion review report (CRR); the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE's) long-term surveillance plan (LTSP); the NRC's assessment of the long-term care fee (LTCF); and an update to the NRC's November 6, 2020, schedule of milestones related to the transfer of the WNI Split Rock site to the DOE for long-term surveillance and maintenance (ADAMS Accession No. ML20314A121).

As documented in the NRC's letter to Mr. David Adams of your staff on August 3, 2021 (ADAMS Accession No. ML21106A181), the NRC has concluded its review of the CRR and will provide final concurrence on the CRR once the DOE's LTSP is accepted and the LTCF is approved. The NRC expects the draft final LTSP from the DOE in November 2021 and anticipates completing its review during the first quarter of 2022. The NRC staff received a public version of the DOE's LTCF estimate on September 27, 2021 (ADAMS Package Accession No. ML21271A253), and provided the DOE's public estimate to your staff on October 1, 2021. The NRC is evaluating the DOE's estimate to determine the appropriate LTCF for the Split Rock site and will engage with the WDEQ and the licensee as necessary to acquire additional input before establishing the LTCF. The NRC expects to update the schedule of remaining milestones in November 2021.

If you have any additional questions concerning the NRC's reviews associated with the WNI Split Rock site, please contact Patricia Holahan, Director of the Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery and Waste Programs, at 301-415-7319 or Patricia.Holahan@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

Signed by Lewis, Robert on 10/06/21

Robert J. Lewis, Deputy Director Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

cc: Carmelo Melendez, Director Office of Legacy Management U.S. Department of Energy SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON THE STATUS OF THE

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TERMINATION Date: October 6, 2021

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ADAMS Accession No.: ML21265A195 *via email

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