

January 2, 2024

G. Paul Bollwerk, III, Chair
Administrative Judge
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel
Mail Stop T-3 F23
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

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

Dr. Nicholas G. Trikouros
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.
(North Trend Expansion Project)
Docket No. 40-8943-MLA; ASLBP No. 07-859-03-MLA-BD01

Dear Administrative Judges:

On May 7, 2018, the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board directed the NRC Staff to provide quarterly status updates, starting on July 2, 2018, regarding the status of the review process for the Crow Butte Resources (CBR) North Trend Expansion Area (NTEA) license amendment application.¹ On October 3, 2023, the Board convened a prehearing conference to discuss the current status of the NTEA application and other related matters. The conference included discussion of the status of the NRC Staff's review, the applicant's basis for requesting the suspension of the Staff's review, and the intervenors' positions on continuing to pursue the litigation.²

¹ Memorandum and Order (Reinstituting NRC Staff Status Reporting Requirement in Response to Applicant-Requested Suspension of Licensing Review Process) at 2 (May 7, 2018) (unpublished).

² Memorandum and Order (Confirming Matters Addressed at October 3, 2023 Prehearing Conference and Continuing NRC Staff Status Reporting Requirement) at 2–3 (Oct. 26, 2023) (unpublished).

Subsequently, on December 18, 2023, CBR submitted a letter to the Staff indicating that CBR planned to withdraw the NTEA application.³ On December 29, 2023, CBR filed a motion to withdraw its license amendment application.⁴

Respectfully submitted,

Signed (electronically) by

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Dated this 2nd day of January 2024

cc: EIE Service List

³ On that same day, December 18, 2023, CBR also filed a letter informing the Board and the parties to this proceeding of CBR's intent to withdraw the NTEA application.

⁴ See *Crow Butte Resources, Inc.'s Motion to Withdraw License Amendment Application* (December 29, 2023).

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

In the Matter of)	
)	Docket No. 40-8943-MLA
CROW BUTTE RESOURCES, INC.)	
)	ASLBP No. 07-859-03-MLA-BD01
(North Trend Expansion Project))	

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 2nd day of January 2024, 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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