



The Wyoming Department of Agriculture is dedicated to the promotion and enhancement of Wyoming's agriculture, natural resources and quality of life.

December 17, 2012

Ms. Kristin Yannone, Project Manager
Bureau of Land Management, Lander Field Office
1335 Main Street
Lander, WY 82520

Dear Ms. Yannone:

Following are the Wyoming Department of Agriculture's (WDA) comments pertaining to Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for Gas Hills In-Situ Recovery (ISR) Uranium Project by the Lander Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

Our comments are specific to our mission: dedication to the promotion and enhancement of Wyoming's agriculture, natural resources, and quality of life. As this DEIS affects our agriculture industry, our natural resources, and the welfare of our citizens, it's important you continue to inform us of proposed actions and decisions and continue to provide the opportunity to express pertinent issues and concerns.

This project will impact grazing permittees, agriculture producers, landowners, and other citizens, as well as our natural resources, both in and near this 8500-acre project area. This project will heavily impact livestock grazing permittees, especially those utilizing the Gas Hills Allotment. The WDA appreciates commitments by the BLM and Cameco Resources to mitigate impacts to livestock grazing permittees by holding annual meetings to discuss operations, conducting surveys of range improvement projects prior to mine unit construction, correcting damage to livestock and range improvements and striving for timely and appropriate reclamation.

The WDA also offers the following specific comments to the DEIS:

1.5.2.1 Cooperating Agency Participation, Table 1-5, p. 1-11

Jason Fearneyhough and Michelle MacDonald are contacts with the Wyoming Department of Agriculture, not the USDA.

2.3.9 Applicant-committed Environmental Protection Measures, p. 2-36, 2nd bullet

"In those areas where there were few or no noxious weeds prior to being affected by the ISR operations, Cameco would control and minimize the introduction of noxious weeds into the revegetated areas for at least 5 years after the initial seeding had taken place."

The WDA believes it is essential that Cameco and the BLM control noxious weeds in all areas affected by ISR operations, not just in those areas that had few noxious weeds to begin with.

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ISR Uranium Project
DEIS
12/17/2012
Page 2 of 2

In conclusion, we appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Gas Hills In-Situ Recovery Uranium Project DEIS. We encourage continued attention to our concerns and look forward to hearing about and being involved in proposed actions and decisions.

Sincerely,



Jason Fearneyhough
Director

JF/jc

CC: Governor's Policy Office
Rocky Mountain Farmer's Union
Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts
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