



RICHARD E. BLUBAUGH  
VICE PRESIDENT – ENVIRONMENTAL  
HEALTH & SAFETY RESOURCES

January 26, 2007

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Attn: Randolph von Till, Chief  
Uranium Recovery Branch  
Division of Waste Management and Environmental Protection  
Decommissioning and Uranium Recovery Licensing Directorate  
Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs  
Washington, DC 20555

**RE: Notice of Intent to File License Application for New *In Situ* Leach Uranium Recovery Project in the State of South Dakota**

Dear Mr. von Till:

This letter is intended to serve as Powertech Uranium Company's (Powertech's) notice of intent to file a license application with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) Uranium Recovery Branch for an NRC Materials License under 10 CFR Part 40 regulations and associated Appendix A Criteria to conduct *in situ* leach (ISL) uranium recovery operations at a project site in Southwestern South Dakota, a *non-Agreement* State. Powertech also intends to begin the process of obtaining other relevant permits such as an underground injection control (UIC) permit and aquifer exemption from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Powertech anticipates that it will not be submitting its application prior to late 2007, as we are still in the planning phase.

It is Powertech's intent to obtain a full Materials License allowing for the recovery of uranium using traditional ISL uranium recovery technologies and to submit a license application addressing all issues delineated by NRC Staff in NUREG-1569 entitled *Standard Review Plan for In Situ Leach Uranium Extraction License Applications*. Powertech further intends to support this license application with a comprehensive environmental report pursuant to the guidance in NUREG-1748 entitled *Environmental Review Guidance for Licensing Actions Associated with NMSS Programs*.

In an effort to familiarize NRC with its proposed licensing effort and to better understand the licensing process, Powertech hereby requests a meeting with you and any members of NRC Staff you deem appropriate. Powertech intends to offer NRC Staff a presentation regarding the proposed project ~~site(s)~~, as well as an introduction to all



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relevant company personnel and their related experience in the ISL uranium recovery industry and the NRC licensing process.

Powertech greatly appreciates the opportunity to submit a license application to NRC and to meet with you and your staff to discuss issues relevant to this application. Please do not hesitate to contact either myself at (303) 790-7528. If I am not available, you may contact our counsel, Anthony J. Thompson and Christopher S. Pugsley at (202) 496-0780 to schedule this meeting. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter and I look forward to working with you in the near future.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard E. Blubaugh". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Richard E. Blubaugh  
Vice President EH&S Resources  
Powertech (USA) Inc.

cc: Richard F. Clement, Jr.  
Thompson & Simmons, PLLC