January 12, 2012

Ann Marshall Young, Chair Administrative Judge Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel Mail Stop T-3 F23 U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dr. Fred W. Oliver Administrative Judge Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel Mail Stop T-3 F23 U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555-0001 Dr. Richard F. Cole 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. (License Amendment for the North Trend Expansion Project) Docket No. 40-8943; ASLBP No. 07-859-03-MLA-BD01

Dear Administrative Judges:

In its Order dated March 5, 2009, the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board ("Board") directed the NRC staff ("Staff") to tender each month a status report advising as to whether the estimated dates for issuance of the final Safety Evaluation Report ("SER") (predicted for the late summer of 2009) and the final environmental review document (predicted for December of 2009) have changed.¹ The Staff continues to expect to issue the SER by April 2012. Likewise, the Staff continues to expect at this time to issue the final environmental review document by August 2012.

In keeping with the Board's mandate, the Staff will tender its next monthly status report by February 16, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

Executed in Accord with 10 CFR 2.304(d)

Brett Michael Patrick Klukan Counsel for the NRC Staff U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Mail Stop O15-D21 Washington, DC 20555-0001 (301) 415-3629 Brett.Klukan@NRC.gov

Dated at Rockville, Maryland This 12th day of January, 2012

cc: Attached Service List

¹ Order (Confirming Matters Addressed at March 4, 2009, Telephone Conference), at 1 (March 5, 2009).

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

In the Matter of)
CROW BUTTE RESOURCES, INC. In-Situ Leach Facility, Crawford, Nebraska)) Docket No. 40-8943)
=, ,, ,) ASLBP No. 07-859-03-MLA-BD01
(License Amendment for the 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 via the Electronic Information Exchange ("EIE") this 12th day of January 2012, 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.

Executed in Accord with 10 CFR 2.304(d)

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