



U.S. NRC
UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Protecting People and the Environment

OVERVIEW OF URANIUM RECOVERY ACTIVITIES

NMA/NRC Uranium Recovery Workshop
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NRC

May 2007

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Outlook

- Preparation for new applications – high quality applications, notice of intent
- Restarts and expansion of existing facilities
- Existing sites - review work
- Potential ISL Rulemaking
- Address stakeholder issues
- Regulatory Guide Revisions
- Lessons Learned

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ACTIVITIES COMPLETED SINCE LAST WORKSHOP

- Uranium Recovery Pre-licensing Workshop February 8, 2007
- ISL Rule Path Forward to the Commission
- Meetings with new potential licensees
- RMD license on January 25, 2007
- PRI Reynolds ranch satellite amendment
- Homestake Groundwater standards amendment

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ACTIVITIES COMPLETED SINCE LAST WORKSHOP Contd.

- Rio Algom – Soil decommissioning plan
- Pathfinder Lucky Mc – Completion report
- Western Nuclear – Approved ACL amendment
- Atlas Moab - Title I Remedial Action Plan review - RAIs
- 43 license amendments since last June

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ONGOING/PLANNED ACTIVITIES

- New potential applications – reviews
- Meetings with potential new applicants and questions – increasing staff involvement
- ISL Rule pending Commission direction
- Licensee re-starts and expansions
- Existing sites – review actions
- Revise priority regulatory guides
- DOE Title I reviews
- Lessons Learned

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ONGOING/PLANNED ACTIVITIES Contd. Specific Major Activities

- Homestake groundwater actions
- UNC groundwater actions
- Sequoyah Fuels Reclamation plan and groundwater actions
- DOE Atlas site reviews
- Cogema Restart
- PRI amendments
- License termination – Bear Creek
- Rio Algom Decommissioning Reviews

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New Application Review Schedules

- 90 day acceptance review – inadequate applications face not being accepted
- Goal - RAIs 150 days after acceptance
- Generally a two year process due to the EIS – efficiencies may be gained with a GEIS
- Hearings may prolong process
- Schedule depends on workload/budgeted resources

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Staffing

New staff since last workshop

- Dan Gillen – Retired annuitant
- Doug Mandeville – Geotechnical Engineer
- Elise Stritz – Hydrogeologist
- Plan to hire additional staff in order to support increased workload
- Ability to obtain resources to support licensing will be facilitated by the receipt of letters of intent

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CHALLENGES

- New license applications – uncertainty in how many will be received
- Attrition & recruitment – difficulty hiring entry level due to high housing cost in DC area
- Consistency with staff contacts in a dynamic environment
- ISL rulemaking – timing and potential impacts
- Potential re-starts and upgrades
- Stakeholder issues – groundwater resources, Indian Tribe concerns

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