

Gas Hills Uranium EIS Scoping Summary Report

BLM

Lander Field Office, Wind River/Bighorn Basin District, Wyoming

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Contents

1.0	Introduction	1-1
1.1	Description of the Proposed Project	1-1
1.2	Purpose of Scoping	1-1
2.0	Summary of Scoping Meetings and Comments	2-1
2.1	Notification	2-1
2.1.1	Consultation and Coordination with Federal, State, and Local Governments	2-1
2.1.2	Tribal Government-to-Government Consultation	2-2
2.2	Scoping Meetings	2-2
2.3	Summary of Scoping Comments	2-2
3.0	Identification of Issues	3-1
4.0	Potential Alternatives	4-1
5.0	Activities Following Scoping	5-1
6.0	References	6-1

List of Appendices

Appendix A - Agency Notification List

Appendix B - Scoping Meeting Materials

Appendix C - Comprehensive List of Scoping Comments

List of Tables

Table 2-1	Newspaper Publications	2-1
Table 2-2	Scoping Meetings	2-2

List of Figures

Figure 5-1	NEPA Process and Opportunities to Participate	5-1
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1.0 Introduction

Two primary principles of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) are full disclosure of potential environmental effects and open public participation throughout the decision-making process. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Gas Hills Uranium EIS in central Wyoming. The BLM is the lead agency and to date, no cooperating agencies have been identified. The Scoping Summary Report provides an overview of the public scoping process and a summary of the scoping comments and the issues and concerns identified during the scoping process.

1.1 Description of the Proposed Project

The proposed Gas Hills Uranium *In situ* Recovery (ISR) Project is primarily located on BLM-administered public lands within the BLM Lander and Casper field offices approximately 50 miles east of Riverton and 85 miles west of Casper, Wyoming. The proposed project area is 8,538 acres where extensive conventional uranium mining and milling activities were previously conducted over 1,281 acres, or approximately 15 percent of the entire project area. The area is remote, consisting of rugged terrain with limited unimproved and unmaintained dirt roads. Five mine units have been mapped within the Gas Hills project area for well-field development and uranium recovery (Nuclear Regulatory Commission [NRC] 2004). These five units consist of a total of 1,205 acres or 14 percent of the permitted area. Short-term disturbance associated with the project would include well installation, header house construction, pipeline and utility trenches, and installation of electrical power lines. Long-term disturbance would be associated with aboveground facilities, including evaporation ponds, mineral processing and water treatment facilities, wellfield header houses, pump stations, and access roads. These long-term disturbances would be reclaimed at the end of the operation life of the project, anticipated to be 13 to 17 years per mine unit, with a total project life of 25 years (Cameco 2008).

The Gas Hills ISR Project would be operated as a satellite facility to the Smith Ranch/Highland Facility, located in central Converse County. During operations, uranium would be leached from subsurface ore bodies by circulating local groundwater fortified with carbon dioxide or sodium bicarbonate. The uranium would be extracted as a uranium-bearing solution using a surface ion exchange facility at the Gas Hills facility. The resulting uranium-laden ion exchange resin would then be transported by truck to the Smith Ranch/Highland Facility (approximately 140 miles by highway and access roads) for final processing into "yellowcake" (U_3O_8). Once the uranium is removed, the ion exchange resin would be returned to the Gas Hills site for re-use. Office and water treatment facilities already exist on-site (Carol Shop Facility) (Cameco 2008). Evaporation ponds would be located at the Gas Hills site for the treatment and storage of wastes from process operations and subsequent well field groundwater restoration activities.

The U.S. Department of Interior, BLM has determined that an EIS is required to analyze the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project; as such, the BLM Lander Field Office will serve as the Lead Agency for preparing the EIS.

1.2 Purpose of Scoping

Scoping is the process of actively soliciting input from the public and other interested federal, state, tribal, and local agencies. Information gained during scoping assists BLM in identifying potential environmental issues, alternatives, and mitigation measures associated with development of the proposed project. The process provides a mechanism for determining the scope and significant issues (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1501.7 and CFR 1508.25) so that the EIS can focus the analyses on areas of interest and concern. Therefore, public participation during the scoping period is a vital component to preparing a comprehensive and sound NEPA document. Scoping provides the public, tribes, and agencies opportunities for meaningful involvement in the decision-making process.

BLM's overall scoping goal for the Gas Hills Uranium ISR Project is to engage a diverse group of public and agency participants in the NEPA process, solicit relevant input, and provide timely information through the duration of the projects. Five specific key goals were established in the project's Public Participation Plan and are provided below:

1. Ensure the public knows they have 45 days to submit input about the project and that there will be public meetings to explain the ISR mining process.
2. Highlight the BLM's efforts to involve the public in decisions affecting their public lands.
3. Highlight cooperative relationships between the BLM and local communities and governments.
4. Encourage public participation.
5. Highlight the BLM's practice of working proactively to understand the different points of view and evaluate them during environmental impacts analysis.

2.0 Summary of Scoping Meetings and Comments

2.1 Notification

The initial step in the NEPA process is to notify the public, other government agencies, and tribes of the lead agency's intent to prepare an EIS by publishing the Notice of Intent (NOI) in the *Federal Register*. The NOI for the Gas Hills Uranium ISR Project was published in the *Federal Register* on September 7, 2010, and included a project description and BLM contact information.

In addition to publishing the NOI, the BLM mailed 312 *Dear Interested Party* letters on October 18, 2010 notifying the public about the Project, the intent to prepare an EIS, and information about the scoping meetings. **Appendix A** provides a list of the agencies and organizations that received the letter. Display advertisements were placed in local newspapers (**Table 2-1**) providing information about the upcoming public scoping meeting dates, times, and locations.

Table 2-1 Newspaper Publications

Newspaper	Dates Published
<i>Casper Star Tribune</i>	10/24/2010
<i>Riverton Daily Ranger</i>	10/26/2010, 11/16/2010
<i>Lander Journal</i>	10/24/2010, 10/27/2010, 11/14/2010
<i>Wind River News</i>	10/21/2010, 11/11/2010

Additionally, BLM issued press releases announcing their intent to prepare an EIS and information about the upcoming public scoping meetings. A press release was issued on September 8, 2010 announcing BLM's intent to prepare an EIS; on October 13, 2010 announcing the public scoping meetings in Casper, Riverton, and Lander, Wyoming; and a final press release was issued on November 8, 2010 announcing an additional public scoping meeting in Jeffrey City, Wyoming.

2.1.1 Consultation and Coordination with Federal, State, and Local Governments

Specific regulations require BLM to coordinate and consult with federal, state, and local agencies about the potential of the proposed project and alternatives to affect sensitive resources. The coordination and consultation must occur in a timely manner and are required before any final decisions are made. Issues related to agency consultation may include biological resources, cultural resources, socioeconomics, and land and water management. Biological resource consultations apply to the potential for activities to disturb sensitive species or habitats. Cultural resource consultations apply to the potential for activities to impact cultural or archaeological sites. The BLM has initiated these coordination and consultation activities through the scoping process and mailed letters to 28 federal and state agencies, including the Wyoming Governor's Office, inviting them to participate as a cooperating agency in the preparation of the EIS. Nineteen letters were sent to individuals in 6 state agencies notifying them about the project and coordinating with the Governor's office. The BLM also sent an additional 11 notification letters to 9 different federal, state, elected officials, and Conservation Districts. The State of Wyoming through the Governor's Planning Office, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Fish and Wildlife Service, and Fremont County have agreed to participate as cooperating agencies. Natrona County and U.S. Park Service have replied that they do not intend to participate as Cooperating Agencies.

2.1.2 Tribal Government-to-Government Consultation

Under Executive Order 13084, BLM is required to establish regular and meaningful consultation and collaboration with Native American tribal governments on development of regulatory policies and issuance of permits that could significantly or uniquely affect their communities. Consultation with the Tribes has been commenced and will include on the ground consultation. Nation to Nation consultation has been initiated, but to date no tribes have indicated that they would like governmental consultation.

Scoping Meetings

Public scoping meetings offer an opportunity for public involvement during the scoping period. The meetings are designed to promote information exchange about the proposed project and to gather public input. Initially, the BLM hosted three public scoping meetings in Casper, Riverton, and Lander Wyoming. At the request of Fremont County Commissioners, a fourth public scoping meeting was held in Jeffrey City, Wyoming. The date, times, location, and number of public attendees at the scoping meetings are provided in **Table 2-2**.

Table 2-2 Scoping Meetings

Meeting Location	Meeting Date/Time	Number of Attendees that Signed In
Natrona County Public Library Casper, Wyoming	October 26, 2010 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm	32
Fremont County Library Riverton Branch Riverton, Wyoming	October 27, 2010 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm	38
Fremont County Library Lander Branch Lander, Wyoming	October 28, 2010 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm	28
Jeffrey City Fire House Jeffrey City, Wyoming	November 18, 2010 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm	16

The scoping meetings were conducted in an open house format. The informal open house format allows meeting attendees the opportunity to ask BLM representatives, the Project applicant, and the NEPA contractor questions about the project and the NEPA process. Display boards showing the NEPA process and maps of the proposed project were provided to facilitate conversation. A fact sheet was distributed to meeting attendees describing the proposed project, the NEPA process, and how the public can be involved. Comment forms were available for the public to complete and submit to BLM at the meeting, or for mailing to the BLM at a later date. Informational materials presented to the public at the scoping meetings are provided in **Appendix B**.

2.2 Summary of Scoping Comments

BLM received a total of 21 comment submittals (e.g., letter, comment form) containing 215 individual comments during the public scoping period. Following the close of the public scoping period, comments were compiled and analyzed to identify issues and concerns. Each comment was identified, reviewed, and entered into an electronic database. As comments were entered, contact information for the commenter was added, or updated, to the mailing list to ensure that all interested parties would receive information throughout the EIS process.

Once the individual comments were compiled in the database, reports were generated categorizing the issues by topic (e.g., NEPA process, alternatives, cumulative impacts, etc. and/or resource [i.e., biology,

soils, visual, etc.]). The summary reports were reviewed to identify data entry errors and eliminate duplication. A comprehensive list of scoping comments was sorted by topic and is presented in **Appendix C**. Some of the scoping comments were eliminated from consideration in the EIS because they addressed issues outside the scope of detailed analyses or the comment stated an opinion.

3.0 Identification of Issues

Information gained during scoping assists BLM in identifying the potential environmental issues, alternatives, and mitigation measures associated with development of the proposed project. The process provides a mechanism for narrowing the scope of issues so that the EIS can focus the analysis on areas of high interest and concern. A majority of the comments were related to cumulative impacts, mitigation and monitoring, potential impacts to range resources, water resources, and wildlife resources. There were a number of concerns and questions about the NEPA process and requests for additional public participation. Some of the comments were assigned to more than one category, so they are counted more than once in the table total of comments. The following list summarizes the key comments by topic category. A comprehensive list of the scoping comments is provided in **Appendix C**.

Cumulative Impacts

- Air quality monitoring needs to start now in order to monitor the cumulative impacts of this and other projects in the area.
- Concerns regarding the cumulative effects of other uranium and wind projects adjacent to the project area.
- Cumulative impacts should be considered, including uranium mining and non-mining activities in the area and beyond the site boundary.
- Cumulative impacts of other proposed *In situ* uranium extraction projects and their impacts on groundwater and surface waters.
- Cumulative impact affects on livestock grazing operations must be evaluated in the EIS.
- Cumulative impact studies must be completed on short and long-term use of groundwater supplies.

Mitigation and Monitoring

- The project site has been degraded by past mining activities and serves as a reminder of how reclamation can fail.
- The EIS needs to discuss the likelihood of restoring water quality to baseline standards, especially given past difficulties Cameco has experienced.
- Will BLM conduct inspections and/or carry out enforcements?
- Development should be phased in, while reclaiming as the project moves forward.
- A landscape-scale environmental compliance and mitigation plan, including a matrix for wildlife, should be developed. The plan should consider compliance, monitoring, and remediation.
- There needs to be a discussion regarding the extent to which the project will disturb any pending or previous reclamation efforts, both on site or in the vicinity.
- Concerns regarding the establishment of realistic reclamation timelines and goals.
- Groundwater and surface reclamation standards need to be better than the average "standards" that the BLM traditionally implements.
- Annual monitoring of reclamation efforts should be conducted and reviewed at public meetings where mitigation can be researched and implemented.
- Appropriate and significant bonding must meet the cost of development of the project.

Rangeland Resources

- Need to discuss impacts to other land uses including hunting, recreation and grazing and other leases in the Gas Hills.
- The EIS needs to discuss the positive effects of livestock grazing as a tool for achieving desirable environmental objectives and the project's impact on limiting the ability of livestock grazing to achieve these effects.
- EIS should include a thorough social and economic impact analysis with emphasis on livestock grazing in and adjacent to the planning area.
- Encourage BLM staff and operators to work closely with affected grazing permittees and continuously inform all who are directly and indirectly affected of the issues, decisions, and actions regarding this proposal.

Water Resources

- To minimize impacts to aquatic resources, BMP's are recommended to control erosion and prevent sediment from reaching waterways.
- An inventory of groundwater and impacts to aquifers resulting from drawdown must be completed, including impacts to landowners, nearby streams and springs, and topography and habitat.
- Inventory of abandoned wells should be completed to ensure proper plugging and abandonment. This will help prevent contamination of aquifers.
- Studies should include the potential communication and migration of groundwater to springs and remediation should contamination occur.
- Need to discuss whether evaporation ponds will be employed and how they will be protected. If used, surface impacts and surface water impacts need to be discussed.
- Extra caution needs to be taken due to the 15,000 wells already in existence in the project area and could lead to groundwater contamination.
- There needs to be a plan for maintaining the cone of depression in the event of a temporary shut down. If the cone is not maintained the groundwater in the area would be threatened.
- Removal of used excess water should not be placed in reclaimed water bodies or impoundments.
- The BLM should review a letter from the EPA to the NRC (dated 3/3/10) to ensure that adequate consideration and analysis is given to various aspects of the project, including groundwater protection.

Wildlife Resources

- Measures to control invasive plant species should be considered. Invasive plants have detrimental effects on wildlife and native plants
- Need to conduct ground surveys to identify wildlife and botanical resources and determine how they may be affected.
- Recommend requiring extensive lek searches within the area encompassed by the project.
- Recognition of Executive Order 2010-04 establishing greater sage grouse core areas and management recommendations from the Governor's Sage Grouse Implementation Team.
- The Gas Hills Uranium project is within winter and yearlong habitat for mule deer and antelope. The surface disturbance associated with this development will be substantial.
- BLM should discuss a full range of alternatives and mitigation measures related to wildlife.

- Submerged aquatic vegetation and aquatic invertebrates in evaporation ponds can make waterborne selenium available to migratory birds.
- The USFWS is concerned with the potential for selenium accumulation in evaporative ponds receiving wastewater.
- Disposal of injection wastewater through irrigation or land application is not recommended by the USFWS due to the potential for bioaccumulation of selenium in the food chain and adverse effects to migratory birds.
- No nest manipulation is allowed without a permit issued by the USFWS' Migratory Bird Office. If a permit cannot be issued the project may need to be modified to ensure that take does not occur.
- Need to discuss the best available science from agencies regarding impacts to sage-grouse and the possibility of timing stipulations and no-surface-activity buffers.
- Environmental impact analysis needs to assess the potential for wildlife mortality along access roads due to increased project related traffic.

NEPA Process and Public Participation

- NEPA process is convoluted and confusing. How can cooperating agencies ensure that a complete analysis of impacts is being achieved?
- Wyoming Outdoor Council requested that BLM extend the comment period until additional information can be made available to the public.
- Suggest that a finalized Plan of Operations be made available to the public before the scoping comment period is closed.
- Suggest that a site visit, open to the public, be conducted by Cameco and BLM jointly for a better understanding of ground disturbance.
- The project should include development guidelines and decisions using the new Lander RMP.
- A scoping decision is premature and the comment period must be extended until the Final Plan of Operations is released.
- Encourage BLM to allow the public to attend meetings with cooperating agencies and periodically post updated information on their website.

4.0 Potential Alternatives

One of the objectives of scoping is to identify alternatives to the applicant's proposed project for evaluation in the EIS. First, potential alternatives are identified, and then alternatives that do not meet the project's purpose and need are screened out from further consideration in the EIS. Potential alternatives are then narrowed down to options that are "feasible" and "reasonable" based on technical, economic, and environmental factors. Alternatives that are eliminated from detailed evaluation will be discussed in the EIS including the reasons for their elimination.

BLM will review alternatives identified during the scoping period. These comments and issues will be used to develop an array of potential alternatives for consideration by the BLM. Below is a summary of key public comments associated with alternatives to the proposed Gas Hills Uranium Project.

- The BLM should consider other alternatives including phased or limited operations and additional mitigation measures.
- Under a phasing alternative the BLM needs to discuss how different mine units will proceed and what reclamation criteria must be met before proceeding to a new unit.
- Various transportation routes need to be considered as alternatives.
- Reclamation of wildlife habitat at various acreages and rates of restoration need to be considered as alternatives.
- Treatment, storage, and disposal of waste water needs to be considered among the suggested alternatives.

5.0 Activities Following Scoping

The NEPA process provides several formal opportunities for public input as well as ongoing opportunities to comment. Following the scoping period, the Draft EIS will be prepared incorporating information received from the public during the scoping period. Once the Draft EIS is complete, BLM will publish and distribute the document for public review. During the review period, the public can comment on key issues and the adequacy of the purpose and need, alternatives analysis, and proposed mitigation presented in the Draft EIS. Public meetings will take place to allow the public the opportunity to provide comments. **Figure 5-1** identifies additional opportunities and the anticipated schedule for the public to provide formal comments and participate in the EIS environmental review process.

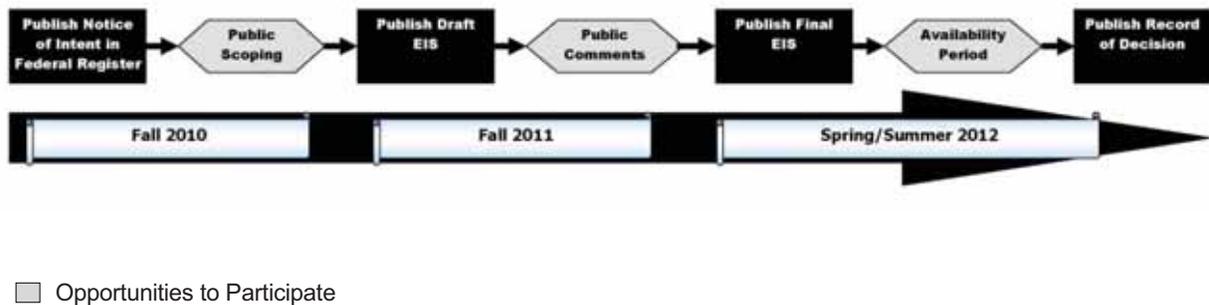


Figure 5-1 NEPA Process and Opportunities to Participate

6.0 References

Cameco Resources (Cameco). 2008. Plan of Operations for the Gas Hills ISR, August 2008.

Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). 2004. Environmental Assessment for the Operation of the Gas Hills Project Satellite *In situ* Leach Uranium Recovery Facility. January 2004.

Appendix A

Agency Notification List

Full Name	Job Title	Agency/Org	City	State
Chris Dolnack	Senior Vice President	Natl Shooting Sports Fdn	Newtown	CT
Rick Patterson	Managing Director	Sporting Arms & Ammunition Man. Inst.	Newtown	CT
Len Vallender		Campfire Club of America	Chappaqua	NY
Michael Kuriga			Williamsport	PA
Tom Franklin	Senior Vice President	Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership	Washington	DC
Jay McAninch	CEO/President	Bowhunting Preservation Alliance	Centreville	VA
Geoffrey L. Haskett	Act. Asst. Dir., Natl Wildlife Ref System	US Fish and Wildlife Service	Washington	DC
John Barrasso	US Senator		Washington	DC
Mike Enzi	US Senator		Washington	DC
Cynthia Lummis	US Representative		Washington	DC
Susan Recce	Dir. - Conservation, Wildlife and Nat. Res.	Natl Rifle Assoc of America	Fairfax	VA
Donnie Buckland	Senior Vice President	Quails Unlimited	Edgefield	SC
Brain Murphy	Executive Director	Quality Deer Management Assoc	Bogart	GA
W Alan Wentz	Sr. Group Manager	Ducks Unlimited	Memphis	TN
Rick Story	Senior Vice President & Secretary	US Sportsmen's Alliance	Columbus	OH
Jeff Schinkten	President	Whitetail's Unlimited	Sturgeon Bay	WI
Dan Dessecker	Senior Wildlife Biologist	Ruffed Grouse Society	Rice Lake	WI
Douglas H Grann	President & CEO	Wildlife Forever	Brooklyn Center	MN
Mike Schlegel	Conservation Committee Chairman	Pope and Young Club	Chatfield	MN
Dwayne Big Eagle	Chairman	Crow Creek Sioux Tribe	Fort Thompson	SD
Lana Gravatt	THPO	Yankton Sioux Tribe	Marty	SD
Robert Cournoyer	Chairman	Yankton Sioux Tribe	Marty	SD
Michael Jandreau	Chairman	Lower Brule Sioux Tribe	Lower Brule	SD
Rodney Bordeaux	President	Rosebud Sioux Tribe	Rosebud	SD
Russel Eagle Bear	THPO	Rosebud Sioux Tribe	Rosebud	SD
Joseph J. Brings Plenty, Sr.	Chairman	Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe	Eagle Butte	SD
Theresa Two Bulls	President	Oglala Sioux Tribe	Pine Ridge	SD
Joel Brice	Mgr, US Conservation Programs	Delta Waterfowl Foundation	Bismarck	SD
Charles Murphy	Chairman	Standing Rock Sioux Tribe	Fort Yates	ND
Marcus Wells, Jr.	Chairman	Three Affiliated Tribes of Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikira Nation	New Town	ND
Cedrick Black Eagle	Chairman	Crow Nation	Crow Agency	MT
Hubert Two Leggins	Cultural Resources Director	Crow Nation	Crow Agency	MT
Leroy Spang	President	Northern Cheyenne Tribe	Lame Deer	MT
		Nance Petroleum Corporation	Billings	MT
Rusty Stafne	Chairman	Fort Peck Assiniboin Sioux Tribes	Poplar	MT
Mark Hirvonen	President	Orion – The Hunters Institute	Helena	MT
Deborah Kmon Davidson		American Wildlands	Bozeman	MT
Mike Clark		Greater Yellowstone Coalition	Bozeman	MT
Peter Aengst	Deputy Director	The Wilderness Society, rthern Rockies Office	Bozeman	MT
Bob Model	President	Boone and Crockett Club of America	Missoula	MT
J Dart	President & CEO	Rocky Mountain Elk Fdn	Missoula	MT
Dennis Boswell-Prairie Chief	Governor	Southern Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes	Concho	OK
		Brower Oil & Gas Co, Inc.	Jenks	OK
Jon Burke	Business Development Manager	Sell WindEnergy Inc.	Houston	TX
		Rocksources Energy Corp	Houston	TX

Full Name	Job Title	Agency/Org	City	State
		Texaco Exploration & Production	Houston	TX
		Co co Phillips Company	Houston	TX
		El Paso Production Oil & Gas Company	Houston	TX
		Exxon Co.	Houston	TX
		Cluck- Cameron Cattle Co	Canyon	TX
		BTA Producers	Midland	TX
Eileen Day		Burlington Resources Oil & Gas Co	Midland	TX
		Inexco Oil Company	Midland	TX
		Louisiana Land & Exploration	Midland	TX
		Wilbanks Resources Corp.	Broomfield	CO
		O & G Environmental Consulting, LLC	Englewood	CO
		Strachan Exploration Inc.	Englewood	CO
		Ultra Resources Inc.	Englewood	CO
		Carousel Energy Operating LLC	Franktown	CO
		Bill Barrett Corporation	Denver	CO
Robert C Mathes		Bjork, Lindley & Little	Denver	CO
		Cabot Oil & Gas Corp.	Denver	CO
Ron H Olsen	Government & Regulatory Affairs Advisor	EnCana Oil & Gas (USA) Inc	Denver	CO
Eric Dille		EOG Resources Inc.	Denver	CO
Andrew C Morris	Division Land Advisor	EOG Resources, Inc.	Denver	CO
		Independent Petroleum Assoc of Mtn States	Denver	CO
		Infinity Oil & Gas Inc.	Denver	CO
		Patina Oil & Gas Corp	Denver	CO
		Petrogulf Corp.	Denver	CO
		Tom Brown Inc	Denver	CO
James Hanley	NEPA Compliance and Review Program	US EPA Region 8	Denver	CO
		Western Gas Resources	Denver	CO
Linda VanderVeer		Bjork Lindley & Little PC	Denver	CO
Land Manager		Anschutz Exploration Corp.	Denver	CO
		Kinder Morgan, Inc.	Lakewood	CO
James Walcutt		EnCana Oil & Gas USA Inc	Denver	CO
		Western Nuclear Inc.	Golden	CO
		Western Area Power Assoc.	Loveland	CO
		EnCana Oil & Gas	Fort Lupton	CO
Jim Mosher	Executive Director	North American Grouse Partnership	Fruita	CO
Barb Sahl		Wyoming DEQ - Water Quality Div	Cheyenne	WY
Steve Rey Ids	Director	Office of State Lands & Investments	Cheyenne	WY
Historic Sites Division		State Parks & Cultural Resources	Cheyenne	WY
Jessica Crowder	Senior Policy Analyst	WY Dept of Agriculture - Natural Resources & Policy Sec	Cheyenne	WY
Bill DiRienzo		WY DEQ - Water Discharge Group	Cheyenne	WY
Leanne Stevenson	Natural Resource & Policy Section	Wyoming Department of Agriculture	Cheyenne	WY
John Etchepare	Director	Wyoming Dept of Agriculture	Cheyenne	WY
Jason Fearneyhough		Wyoming Dept of Agriculture	Cheyenne	WY
Leanne Stevenson		Wyoming Dept of Agriculture	Cheyenne	WY
Don McKenzie		Wyoming DEQ	Cheyenne	WY
Todd Parfitt		Wyoming DEQ	Cheyenne	WY
Kelly Bott		Wyoming DEQ - Air Quality Div	Cheyenne	WY
Carissa Krey		Wyoming DEQ - Air Quality Div	Cheyenne	WY
Richard Chancellor		Wyoming DEQ - Land Quality Div.	Cheyenne	WY
Mark Conrad		Wyoming DEQ - Water Quality Div	Cheyenne	WY

Full Name	Job Title	Agency/Org	City	State
Steve Furtney		Wyoming Office of the Governor	Cheyenne	WY
Jodee Pring		Wyoming State Engineer's Office	Cheyenne	WY
Mary Hopkins		Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office	Cheyenne	WY
Susan Child		Wyoming State Lands & Investments	Cheyenne	WY
Kim Rapp		Wyoming State Parks & Historic Trails	Cheyenne	WY
Tracy Williams		Wyoming Trails Program	Cheyenne	WY
Chris Wichmann		Wyoming Dept of Agriculture	Cheyenne	WY
c/o Mike Henn	Office of State Lands & Investments		Cheyenne	WY
Ryan Lance	Governor's Office		Cheyenne	WY
Jim Whalen	Assistant Director Farm Loans	Wyoming State Land & Farm Loan Office	Cheyenne	WY
Cindy DeLancey	Ex. Director	Wyoming County Commissioners' Association	Cheyenne	WY
Jim Magagna		Wyoming Stock Growers Association	Cheyenne	WY
Terry Cleveland	Director	Wyoming Game & Fish	Cheyenne	WY
Steve Ferrell		Wyoming Game & Fish Department	Cheyenne	WY
Rick Huber		Wyoming Game & Fish Department	Cheyenne	WY
John Emmerich	Deputy Director	Wyoming Game & Fish Department	Cheyenne	WY
Chris L. Walla		PHC Reclamation, Inc.	Cheyenne	WY
Mathew Bilodeau		US Army Corps of Engineers, Wyoming Reg Office	Cheyenne	WY
Michael Long	Field Supervisor	US Fish & Wildlife Services, Ecological Services	Cheyenne	WY
United States Fish and Wildlife Service			Cheyenne	WY
Melinda Harm Benson	Wyoming Representative	Land & Water Fund of the Rockies	Laramie	WY
		Friends of Wild Wyoming Deserts	Laramie	WY
Dwayne Meadows	Energy Initiative Field Representative	T. Roosevelt Conservation Partnership	Laramie	WY
		WY Assoc of Professional Archaeologists	Laramie	WY
Judy Wolf		Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office	Laramie	WY
		Biodiversity Conservation Assoc	Laramie	WY
Alan Ver Ploeg		Wyoming State Geological Survey	Laramie	WY
Sue Noecker	Field Service and Public Relations Director		Laramie	WY
		Carbon County Commissioners	Rawlins	WY
George Bagby	State Representative	House District #15	Rawlins	WY
Oscar Paulson		Kennecott Uranium Company	Rawlins	WY
Kim Olson		Wyoming Game & Fish	Rawlins	WY
Floyd Krebs		c/o Jack Darnell	Jeffery City	WY
Robert J Linn			Jeffrey City	WY
William "Jeb" Steward	State Representative	House District #47	Encampment	WY
Sue Ann Riga	Mayor	Town of Bairoil	Bairoil	WY
Suzanne Semich			Cody	WY
Dick Inberg		Apex Surveying	Riverton	WY
Bill Eichler	Mayor	City of Riverton	Riverton	WY
Brea Holland		CWC Outdoor Educ	Riverton	WY
Pam Buline		Field Rep for Senator Barasso	Riverton	WY
Mike Minard		Fremont County ATV & S&R	Riverton	WY
		High Plains Power Inc.	Riverton	WY
David Miller	State Representative	House District #55	Riverton	WY
	News Director	KCWC Public TV	Riverton	WY
	News Director	KTRZ	Riverton	WY
Gavin Woody		Lower Wind River Cons Dist	Riverton	WY
Cathy Meyer		Lower Wind River Conservation District	Riverton	WY
Tim Thorson	Executive Director	Riverton Chamber of Commerce	Riverton	WY

Full Name	Job Title	Agency/Org	City	State
	News Director	Riverton Ranger	Riverton	WY
Robert A Peck	State Senator	Senate District #26	Riverton	WY
Jigg Black	President	Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife, Fremont County Chapter	Riverton	WY
		US Energy/Crested Corp.	Riverton	WY
Cody Beers		WY Dept of Transportation	Riverton	WY
Brad Berg		WY High Desert Outfitters	Riverton	WY
Dick Inberg		Wyoming Backcountry Horsemen	Riverton	WY
Chris Daubin		Wyoming Game and Fish Department	Riverton	WY
Kent Shurtleff		Wyoming National Bank	Riverton	WY
Roger Bower		Wyoming Office of the Governor -Wyoming Business Council	Riverton	WY
		Wyoming Public TV	Riverton	WY
Eli Bebout	State Senator	Wyoming State Senate	Riverton	WY
c/o Harold Schultz		Wyoming Wildlife Federation	Riverton	WY
Carla & Robert Crofts			Riverton	WY
Cathy Meyer			Riverton	WY
Edith's Floral Shop			Riverton	WY
Eugene Thompson			Riverton	WY
Riverton Service Center		Natural Resource Conservation Service	Riverton	WY
	News Director	Dubois Frontier	Dubois	WY
Pam Dewell		Wind River Prog Jackson Hole Land Trust	Dubois	WY
c/o Tory Taylor		Wyoming Wildlife Federation	Dubois	WY
Antonio Pingree		Bureau of Indian Affairs	Ft. Washakie	WY
Ivan Posey	Chairman	Eastern Shoshone Tribe	Fort Washakie	WY
Wilford Ferris	THPO	Eastern Shoshone Tribe	Fort Washakie	WY
Darlene Conrad	THPO	Northern Arapaho	Fort Washakie	WY
Harvey Spoonhunter	Chairman	Northern Arapaho	Fort Washakie	WY
Jolene Catron		Wind River Alliance	Ethete	WY
Jerry Duncan		MRCOON Fremont County ATV	Hudson	WY
Larry Durante		Backcountry Horsemen of Wyoming	Lander	WY
Kristin Yannone		Bureau of Land Management	Lander	WY
Mick Wolfe	Mayor	City of Lander	Lander	WY
	City Council	City of Lander	Lander	WY
Darran Wells		CWC	Lander	WY
Kyle Williams		CWC Outdoor Club	Lander	WY
Jane Adamson	President	Fremont County Assoc of Governments	Lander	WY
Don Hundley		Fremont County ATV	Lander	WY
Paul Westman		Fremont County ATV Assoc	Lander	WY
Thad Dockery	President	Fremont County Cattlemen's Association	Lander	WY
Douglas L. Thompson		Fremont County Commission	Lander	WY
Douglas Thompson		Fremont County Commissioner	Lander	WY
		Fremont County Commissioners	Lander	WY
Ray Price		Fremont County Planning Office	Lander	WY
Jim Hedges		Fremont County Road Department	Lander	WY
Rocky McWilliams		Fremont County Road Department	Lander	WY
Bryan Livingston	Chairman	Fremont County Solid Waste Disposal District	Lander	WY
Lars Baker	Supervisor	Fremont County Weed & Pest District	Lander	WY
W. Patrick Goggles	State Representative	House District #33	Ethete	WY
Del McOmie	State Representative	House District #54	Lander	WY
	News Director	KOVE/KDLY Radio	Lander	WY

Full Name	Job Title	Agency/Org	City	State
Leah Brusci	Director	Lander Chamber of Commerce	Lander	WY
	News Director	Lander Journal	Lander	WY
Dudley Irvine		Lander Valley Sportsman's Assoc	Lander	WY
Hugh Lowham		Lowham Engineering	Lander	WY
Lynda Z German		Mad Dog & the Pilgrim Booksellers	Sweetwater Station	WY
L. German & P. Hinds		Mad dog and the Pilgrim Booksellers/Sweetwater Book	Sweetwater Station	WY
		Museum of the American West	Lander	WY
	Director	National Outdoor Leadership School	Lander	WY
Kevin Edinger		NRCS	Lander	WY
Jeri Trebelcock		Popo Agie Conservation District	Lander	WY
Cale Case	State Senator	Senate District #25	Lander	WY
Robert Moulton		State Lands and Investments	Lander	WY
Bob Budd		The Nature Conservancy	Lander	WY
Paula Hunker	State Director	The Nature Conservancy	Lander	WY
Stephanie Kessler		The Wilderness Society	Lander	WY
Cathy Purves		Trout Unlimited	Lander	WY
Roy Brown		US Fish & Wildlife Service	Lander	WY
Ruth Esperance		USDA - Forest Service	Lander	WY
Jennifer Barrett		Wild Iris Mountain Sports	Lander	WY
Jeff Agueda		Wind River 4x4 Assoc	Lander	WY
Bill DeClue		Wind River 4x4 Assoc	Lander	WY
Doug Lemm		Wind River Recreationists	Lander	WY
Darci Jones		WY Conservation Voters Education Fund	Lander	WY
Bill Locke		WY DEQ	Lander	WY
Tom Bell		WY Outdoor Council	Lander	WY
Kevin McNiven		Wyoming Country Outfitters	Lander	WY
Brian Parker		Wyoming Game & Fish	Lander	WY
Joe Deromedi		Wyoming Game & Fish Department	Lander	WY
Carrie Dobey		Wyoming Game & Fish Department	Lander	WY
Jason Hunter		Wyoming Game & Fish Department	Lander	WY
Kevin Johnson		Wyoming Game & Fish Department	Lander	WY
Dennis Oberlie	Aquatic Habitat Biologist	Wyoming Game & Fish Department	Lander	WY
Tom Ryder		Wyoming Game & Fish Department	Lander	WY
Nick Scribner		Wyoming Game & Fish Department	Lander	WY
Lisa McGee		Wyoming Outdoor Council	Lander	WY
Donn Kesselheim		Wyoming Riparian Assoc	Lander	WY
c/o Dick Loper		Wyoming State Grazing Board	Lander	WY
Brad Hill		Wyoming Trails Program	Lander	WY
Joy Bannon	Field Director	Wyoming Wildlife Federation	Lander	WY
Joy Owen		Wyoming Wildlife Federation	Lander	WY
Robert C. Crofts			Lander	WY
Ron Cunningham			Lander	WY
Scott Harnsberger			Lander	WY
John A. Whipp M.D.			Lander	WY
Teddi Y. Winge			Lander	WY
Michael Jones		National Outdoor Leadership School	Lander	WY
Paula Ellen Hinds			Sweetwater Station	WY
William S. Hancock			Pavillion	WY
Barbara Dobos		Alliance for Historic Wyoming	Casper	WY
		Audubon Council of Wyoming	Casper	WY

Full Name	Job Title	Agency/Org	City	State
Tom Walsh	State Representative	House District #56	Casper	WY
Lisa A Shepperson	State Representative	House District #58	Casper	WY
Drew Perkins	Chairman	Natrona County Commission	Casper	WY
Jackie King	State Director	Office of Representative Barbara Cubin	Casper	WY
Dru Bower		Petroleum Assoc of WY	Casper	WY
		Wold Oil & Gas Co	Casper	WY
Kristie Brown	President	Wyoming Falconer's Association	Casper	WY
Ryan McConnaughey		Field Rep for Representative Cynthia Lummis	Casper	WY
Sandy Tinsley		Field Rep for Senator Enzi	Casper	WY
		Moncrief Oil Company	Casper	WY
		Natrona County Commissioners	Casper	WY
Casper Service Center		Natural Resource Conservation Service	Casper	WY
Edna Kennell		NHTCF & OCTA	Casper	WY
Gary Strong		WY Oil & Gas Conservation Commission	Casper	WY
Rick Marvel		Wyoming Oil & Gas Conservation Commission	Casper	WY
Bill Brauer	Mayor	Casper	Casper	WY
		City Council	Casper	WY
Reginald D Atkins	President	Conservancy of the Phoenix, Inc.	Casper	WY
Steve Harshman	State Representative	House District #37	Casper	WY
Bob Brechtel	State Representative	House District #38	Casper	WY
Mary Meyer Gilmore	State Representative	House District #59	Casper	WY
JR Riggins		Motorized Rec Council of WY	Casper	WY
Charles K Scott	State Senator	Senate District #30	Casper	WY
		Wyoming Sportman's Assoc	Casper	WY
Roy Cohee	State Representative	House District #35	Casper	WY
Barry Floyd		Ducks Unlimited - Regional	Casper	WY
Tom Walters		Natrona County Conservation District	Casper	WY
Eric Grill	Property Agent	Rocky Mountain Power	Casper	WY
Zane L. Fross		Burlington Resources	Lysite	WY
c/o Rob Hendry		Clear Creek Cattle Co.	Lysite	WY
Lois Herbst		Fremont County NRPC	Shoshoni	WY
		Philp Sheep Co.	Shoshoni	WY
	News Director	Shoshoni Pioneer	Shoshoni	WY
Jack Dietsch	Mayor	Town of Shoshoni	Shoshoni	WY
Rich Atkinson		Kennecott Uranium Corp.	Gillette	WY
Rena J Piper	Environmental Engineer	Rio Tinto Energy America	Gillette	WY
Scott Maxwell		Coalition for the Protection of Public Lands	Sheridan	WY
Liz Howell		Sierra Club WY Chapter	Sheridan	WY
Liz Howell	Director	Wyoming Wilderness Assoc	Sheridan	WY
Warren Schreiner		Mule Deer Foundation - Western WY	Rock Springs	WY
Donald Hartley	Regional Preservation Officer	Oregon-California Trails Association	Rock Springs	WY
Rae Lynn Job	State Senator	Senate District #12	Rock Springs	WY
Bernadine Craft	State Representative	House District #17	Rock Springs	WY
Stan Blake	State Representative	House District #39	Green River	WY
		Sweetwater County Commissioners	Green River	WY
Paula & Michael Jensen		Southern Wyoming Dirt Riders	Lyman	WY
Johnathan Ratner		Western Watersheds Project - Wyoming Office	Pinedale	WY
Marty Martin		Senate District 12	Superior	WY
Susan Marsh	CDNST Coordinator	Bridger - Teton National Forest	Jackson	WY
Keith Gingery	State Representative	House District #23	Jackson	WY

Full Name	Job Title	Agency/Org	City	State
Grant C Larson	State Senator	Senate District #17	Jackson	WY
Steve Huhtala	Chairman	Sportsmen for Fish & Wildlife of WY	Thayne	WY
Alonzo Coby	Chairman	Shoshone Bannock Tribes	Fort Hall	ID
Nathan Small	Chairman	Shoshone Bannock Tribes	Fort Hall	ID
Jon Marvel		Western Watershed Project	Hailey	ID
Tom J Cade	Founding Chairman	The Peregrine Fund, Inc.	Boise	ID
Curtis Cesspooch	Chairman	Ute Indian Tribe	Ft. Duchesne	UT
Brian Young	Property Agent	PacifiCorp	Salt Lake City	UT
	Superintendent	USDI - NPS, Long-Distance Trails Office	Salt Lake City	UT
Bruce Pendery	Staff Attorney and Program Director	Wyoming Outdoor Council	Logan	UT
Mark Salvo		WildEarth Guardians	Chandler	AZ
Daniel Patterson	Desert Ecologist	Center for Biological Diversity	Tucson	AZ
		Yates Petroleum Corporation	Artesia	NM
Tom Allen		Public Lands Foundation	Deeth	NV
Right of Way Dept.		Rocky Mountain Pipeline System	Long Beach	CA
John Farley			Olympia	WA
		Natrona County Public Library	Casper	WY
	Fremont County Library	Riverton Branch	Riverton	WY
	Fremont County Library	Lander Branch	Lander	WY

BLM Public Scoping Meeting Proposed *In situ* Uranium Mine

You Are Invited!

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is hosting public scoping meetings in your area. Cameco Resources, Inc. proposes to conduct *in situ* recovery (ISR) uranium exploration and development in the Gas Hills Unit approximately 50 miles east of Riverton and 85 miles west of Casper. You are encouraged to attend any of the planned public scoping meetings to learn more about the proposed project and to provide your comments. Your comments help to define the scope of the Environmental Impact Statement that the BLM is preparing for this project.

Meeting Dates/Times/Locations in Your Area

October 26, 2010	October 27, 2010	October 28, 2010
Natrona County	Freemont County	Freemont County
Public Library	Library	Library
307 East Second St.	Riverton Branch	Lander Branch
Crawford Room	1330 West Park Ave.	200 Amoretti St.
Casper, Wyoming	Riverton, Wyoming	Lander, Wyoming
4 – 6 p.m.	4 – 6 p.m.	4 – 6 p.m.

Need More Information?

Visit the BLM website: <http://www.blm.gov/wy/st/en/info/NEPA/lfodocs/gashills.html>
Or Contact:

Kristin Yannone, Project Manager
Bureau of Land Management
Land Field Office
P.O. Box 589
Lander, WY 82520
Telephone: 307-332-8400



PLEASE JOIN US!

**BLM Public Scoping Meetings
Proposed *In situ* Uranium Mine**

You Are Invited!

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is hosting a public scoping meeting in your area. Cameco Resources, Inc. proposes to conduct *in situ* recovery (ISR) uranium exploration and development in the Gas Hills area approximately 50 miles east of Riverton and 85 miles west of Casper. You are encouraged to attend the planned public scoping meeting to learn more about the proposed project and to provide your comments. Your comments will help to define the scope of the Environmental Impact Statement that the BLM is preparing for this project.

Meeting Date/Time/Location in Your Area

November 18, 2010
Jeffrey City Fire Hall
Jeffrey City, Wyoming
4 – 6 p.m.

Need More Information?

Visit the BLM website: <http://www.blm.gov/wy/st/en/info/NEPA/lfodocs/gashills.html>

Or Contact:

Kristin Yannone, Project Manager
Bureau of Land Management
Lander Field Office
P.O. Box 589
Lander, WY 82520
Telephone: 307-332-8400



PLEASE JOIN US!

BLM Public Scoping Meetings

The Bureau of Land Management is hosting public scoping meetings in your area for the proposed *in situ* recovery uranium mine in the Gas Hills area.

PLEASE JOIN US!

Meeting Dates/Times/Locations in your area:

October 26,
2010

Natrona County
Library
307 East Second
Street
Casper, WY
4 – 6 p.m.

October 27,
2010

Fremont County
Library
1330 West Park
Avenue
Riverton, WY
4 – 6 p.m.

October 28,
2010

Fremont
County Library
200 Amoretti
Street
Lander, WY
4 – 6 p.m.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

Visit the BLM Website:

<http://www.blm.gov/wy/st/en/info/NEPA/lfodocs/gashill.html>.





United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Wind River/Bighorn Basin District
Lander Field Office
P.O. Box 589 (1335 Main Street)
Lander, Wyoming 82520-0589



October 18, 2010

In Reply Refer To Case:
(WYW140590)

Dear Interested Party:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is planning to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the proposed Gas Hill in situ recovery (ISR) Uranium Project in Fremont and Natrona Counties.

Power Resources Inc., doing business as Cameco Resources, is proposing a uranium exploration and development project to explore for and identify mining reserves and extract approximately 1 million to 2.5 million pounds of uranium per year over an anticipated project life of 25 years. The project will use ISR mining methods and will be operated as a satellite facility to the Cameco Smith Ranch-Highland uranium ISR mine operating in Converse County, Wyoming. An existing large building will house the site's central processing facilities. The surface disturbance will be limited to the construction of water, buried water pipelines, single-lane gravel access roads, and small buildings for well-head manifold control equipment known as header houses. The project area covers approximately 8,538 surface acres (approximately 13 square miles) of mixed ownership including 7,940 acres of Federal surface, 161 acres under State Ownership, and 394 acres of private lands. These acres are located in Townships 32 and 33 North, Ranges 89 and 90 West. The project location is proved on the enclosed map.

The first step in the public scoping process was publication of the Notice of Intent for the project in the Federal Register, September 7, 2010.

Public scoping meetings have been scheduled:

October 26, 2010	October 27, 2010	October 28, 2010
Natrona County Public Library	Fremont County Library	Fremont County Library
307 East Second St.	Riverton Branch	Lander Branch
Crawford Room	1330 West Park Ave.	200 Amoretti St.
Casper, Wyoming	Riverton, Wyoming	Lander, Wyoming
4 – 6 P.M.	4 – 6 P.M.	4 – 6 P.M.

We are conducting scoping to December 15, 2010. If you are interested in participating in the scoping process, we request that you respond by supplying your written or e-mailed comments or concerns about the proposed activity by that date. Please submit your comments to:

Kristin Yannone, Project Manager
Bureau of Land Management
Lander Field Office
1335 Main Street
P.O. Box 589
Lander, Wyoming 82520

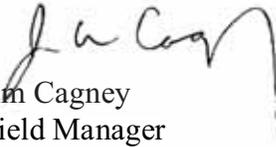
E-mail: Gas_Hills_Uranium_EIS_WY@BLM.gov

The Scoping Notice and other project information are accessible at
<http://www.blm.gov/wy/st/en/info/NEGA/lfodocs/gashills.html>

Your response is important and will be considered in the environmental analysis process. If you do respond, we will consider your comments in the analysis for the project. Please note that public comments submitted for this scoping review, including names, e-mail addresses, and street addresses of the respondents, will be available for public review and disclosure at the above address during regular business hours (7:45 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.), Monday through Friday, except holidays. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name, e-mail address, or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this plainly at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or business, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

Please address any questions to Kristin Yannone, Project Manager, P.O. Box 589, Lander, Wyoming 82520, phone (307) 332-8448.

Sincerely,



Jim Cagney
Field Manager

Cameco Gas Hills ISR Uranium Project

Fremont and Natrona Counties,
Wyoming

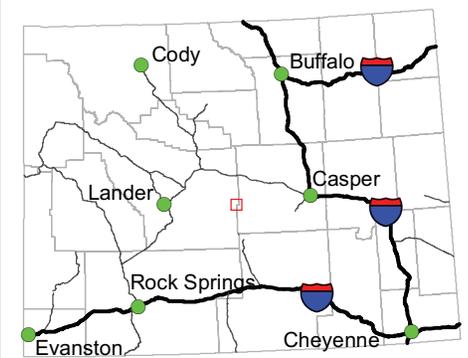
-  Cameco Gas Hills Project Area Boundary
-  Lander Field Office Planning Area Boundary



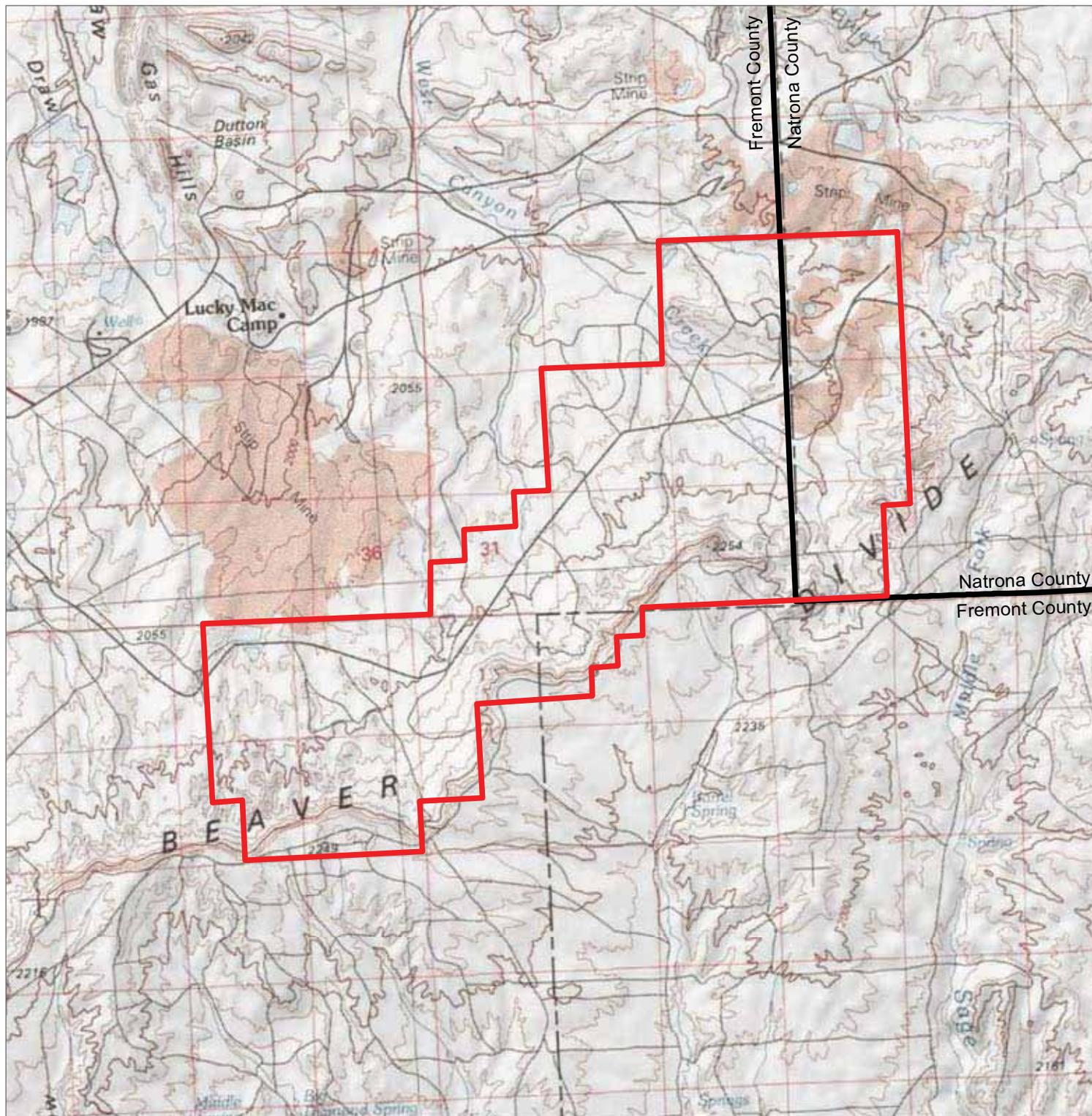
NAD 1983 UTM ZONE 12N



Wyoming Overview
Counties, Roads, Cities
and Project Area



No warranty is made by the
Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
for use of the data for purposes not
intended by BLM.



Appendix B

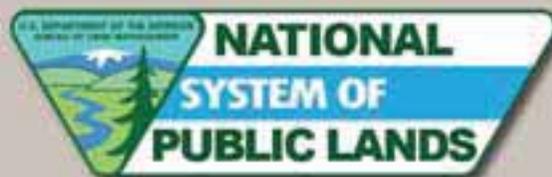
Scoping Meeting Materials

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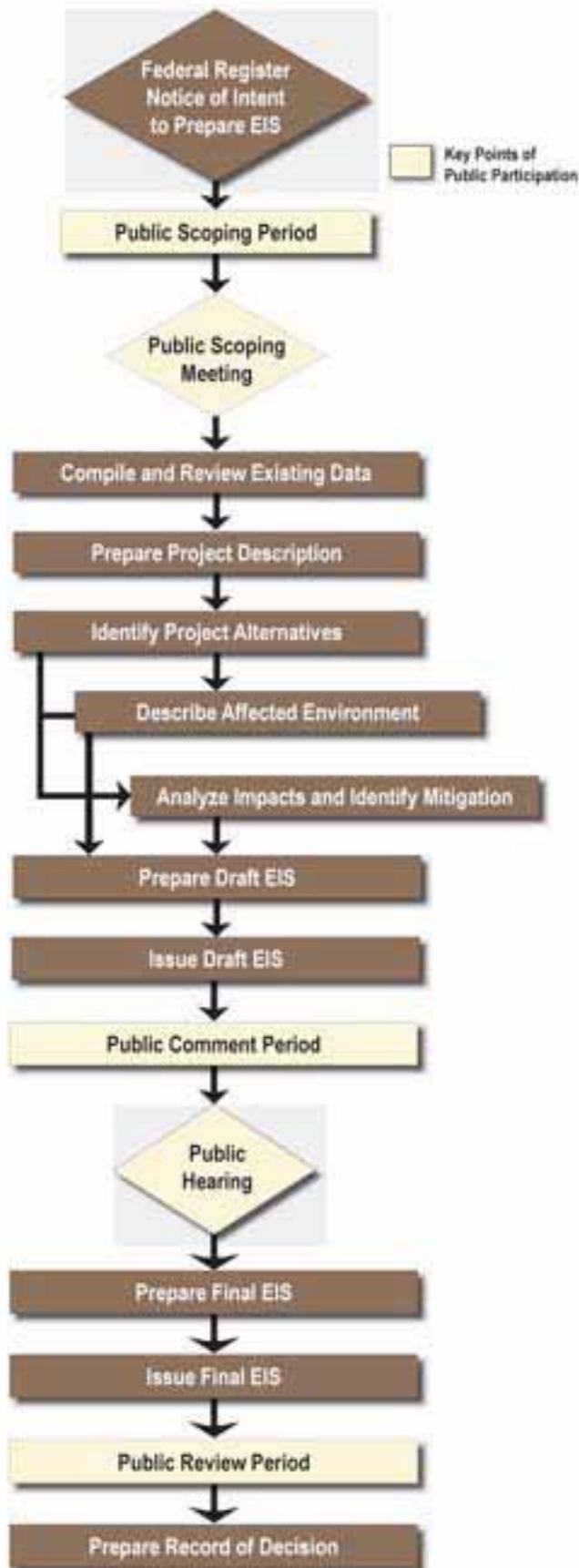
Gas Hills Uranium Project

Environmental Impact Statement

Public Scoping Meeting



NEPA Process



GAS HILLS URANIUM PROJECT EIS FACT SHEET

What is the Gas Hills Uranium Project?

Power Resources, Inc. (PRI) doing business as Cameco Resources (Cameco) proposes to conduct *in situ* recovery (ISR) uranium exploration and development in the Gas Hills area, approximately 50 miles east of Riverton, WY and 84 miles west of Casper, WY. The Gas Hills Mining District has been one of the major uranium-producing regions in the United States. Much of the surface area within and adjacent to the PRI permit area was extensively mined for uranium from the 1950s to the early 1980s.

Cameco's proposed project area includes 7,940 acres of federal surface (including 8,006 of federal mineral), 161 acres of state and 394 acres of private lands. Over the anticipated 25-year life of the project, surface disturbance will be limited to the construction of water wells, buried water pipelines, single-lane gravel access roads, and small buildings for wellhead manifold control equipment.

The Project is permitted by the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality – Land Quality Division (LQD) under Permit to Mine No. 687 and is licensed by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission under Source Materials License SUQ-1548.



Why is the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Involved?

The BLM is responsible for managing mineral rights access on certain federal lands as authorized by the General Mining Law of 1872, as amended. Under the law, persons are entitled to reasonable access to explore for and develop mineral deposits on public lands that have not been withdrawn from mineral entry.

In order to use public lands managed by the BLM's Lander Field Office, Cameco must comply with the BLM Surface Management Regulations (43 CFR 3809) and other applicable statutes, including the Mining and Mineral Policy Act of 1970 (as amended) and Federal Lands Policy Management Act (FLPMA). The BLM must review Cameco's plans for developing the Gas Hills Project to ensure the following:

- Adequate provisions are included to prevent unnecessary or undue degradation of federal lands and to protect the non-mineral resources of the federal lands;
- Measures are included to provide for reclamation of disturbed areas; and
- Compliance with applicable state and federal laws is achieved.



GAS HILLS URANIUM PROJECT EIS FACT SHEET

What is an EIS and why is it being prepared?

An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is being prepared under the direction of the Bureau of Land Management, as the lead federal agency for the Gas Hills Uranium Project. The EIS will be developed in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements and BLM NEPA implementing regulations. NEPA requires that environmental information be made available to the public and public officials before decisions are made.

What is an EIS and why is it being prepared?

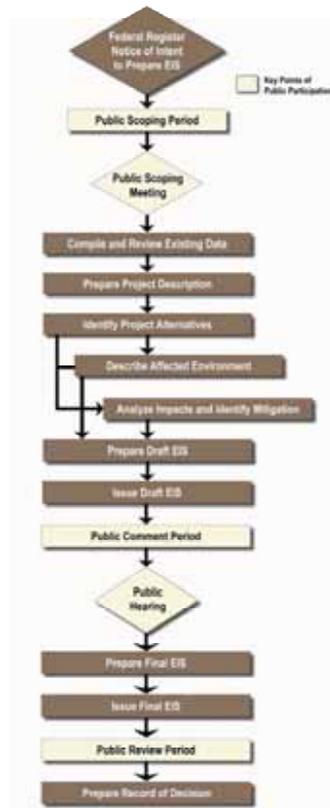
Under the requirements of NEPA, an EIS is prepared for major federal actions that may have a significant effect on the environment. The federal lead agency with jurisdiction over the project (in this case, the BLM) is responsible for preparing the EIS. The EIS will assess and document the potential environmental, cultural, social, economic, and other potential effects of the proposed project and identify opportunities to reduce or mitigate adverse impacts. Additionally, the EIS will evaluate the impacts of a reasonable range of alternatives.

How will the EIS be prepared?

The BLM has elected to use a "third-party contract" process to prepare the EIS; this process is commonly used by the BLM and other federal agencies. Under this process, a private contractor is selected by the lead agency and paid by the applicant to prepare the document under the direction of the lead agency. In this way, the cost of the environmental review and permitting process is borne primarily by the applicant and not by taxpayers. The consultant selected to prepare the Gas Hills Uranium EIS for the BLM is AECOM.

The BLM directly supervises the third-party contractor to ensure that the EIS is consistent with NEPA and its implementing regulations. Furthermore, the BLM is responsible for final acceptance of the Draft and Final EIS and for preparation of the Record of Decision.

NEPA Process



What is scoping?

The scoping process begins once the federal lead agency has decided to prepare an EIS and the Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS is published in the *Federal Register*. Scoping is the process of actively acquiring input from the public and other interested Federal, state, tribal, and local agencies. Information gained during scoping assist the lead agencies in identifying potential environmental issues, alternatives, and mitigation measures associated with development of the proposed project. The process provides a mechanism for narrowing the scope of issues, so that the EIS can focus the analysis on areas of high interest and concern. Therefore, public participation in the scoping process is a vital component in preparing a sound, defensible NEPA document. Scoping provides the public and agencies opportunities for meaningful involvement in the decision-making process.

How can I be involved in the EIS process?

Attend a scoping meeting scheduled near you to learn more about the project. The meeting will provide you the opportunity to ask questions, express any concerns, and submit your comments. At the meeting, be sure to sign in and request to have your contact information placed on the project mailing list. This will ensure that you are kept up-to-date on project activities and receive notices about future ways to provide input.

Participate and provide comment in the public review of the Draft EIS. You will be notified when the Draft EIS is completed and available for review.

For more project information, you can visit the BLM Lander Field Office website at:

<http://www.blm.gov/wy/st/en/info/NEPA/xfdocs/gashills.html>.

Scoping Meetings in your area:

Tuesday, October 26, 2010
Natrona County Public Library
307 East Second Street
Casper, WY 82601
4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 27, 2010
Fremont County Library
Riverton Branch
1330 West Park Avenue
Riverton, WY 82501
4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 28, 2010
Fremont County Library
Lander Branch
200 Amoretti Street
Lander, WY 82520
4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Tips For Providing Effective Comments

Your participation is an important part of the decision-making process!

- Submit your comments on potential impacts and ideas for project alternatives.
- Review the BLM website, monitor local newspapers, attend public meetings, and become familiar with the proposed project development.
- Provide substantive and concise written comments.
- Learn about the NEPA process and when in the process the BLM will receive comments.
- Keep your comments focused on the proposed project being analyzed.

- Submit your comments within the timeframes announced. This helps the BLM to include all concerns in the NEPA document.
- Make sure that you are on the EIS mailing list to receive notification of public meetings or project information, or both.

How to Submit Comments

- Written comments may be submitted at the public scoping meetings;
- You can mail your comments to: Bureau of Land Management, Lander Field Office, Attn: Kristin Yannoni, Project Manager, P.O. Box 589, Lander, WY 82520; or
- Email your comments to: Gas_Hills_Uranium_EIS_WY@BLM.gov.

Submit written comments to BLM by December 15, 2010.

Lander Resource Management Plan Revision



What is the Lander Resource Management Plan Revision?

The BLM is preparing a Resource Management Plan (RMP) revision and accompanying Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Lander Field Office. The RMP will provide future direction for approximately 2.4 million acres of BLM-administered surface land and 2.8 million acres of BLM-administered federal mineral estate in the Lander Field Office. The RMP will establish goals and objectives for resource management, identify lands that are open and closed for certain resource uses, and provide comprehensive management direction for all resources and uses on BLM-administered land and mineral estate in the planning area. The EIS will analyze potential impacts from a range of alternatives including a no action alternative, which is the continuation of existing management, and an agency preferred alternative. Alternatives represent a range of management options that emphasize resource conservation and resource use.

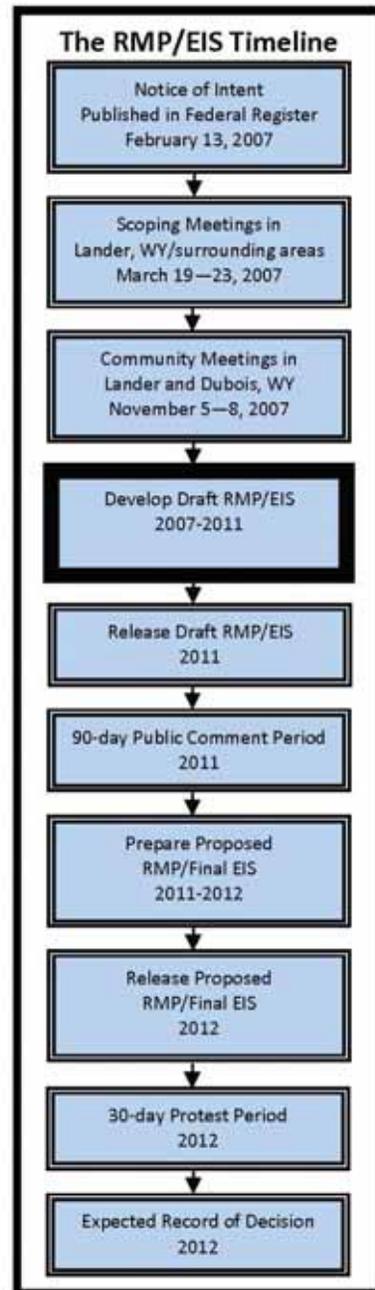
Where are we in the RMP Revision Process?

Based on an analysis of impacts on the range of alternatives, planning criteria, and identified resource issues, the BLM and cooperating agencies developed an agency preferred alternative in the spring of 2010. In October 2010, the BLM completed an analysis of the impacts of the agency preferred alternative that provides information on the potential effects to the natural and human environment from implementation of this alternative. The Preliminary Draft RMP and EIS is currently being prepared for internal review and comment. The BLM will revise the Preliminary Draft RMP and EIS to produce the publicly available Draft RMP and EIS, scheduled for release in early 2011. The public will be invited to comment on the Draft RMP and EIS during a 90-day comment period.

For Information on the Lander RMP please visit the project website. Information available on the website includes:

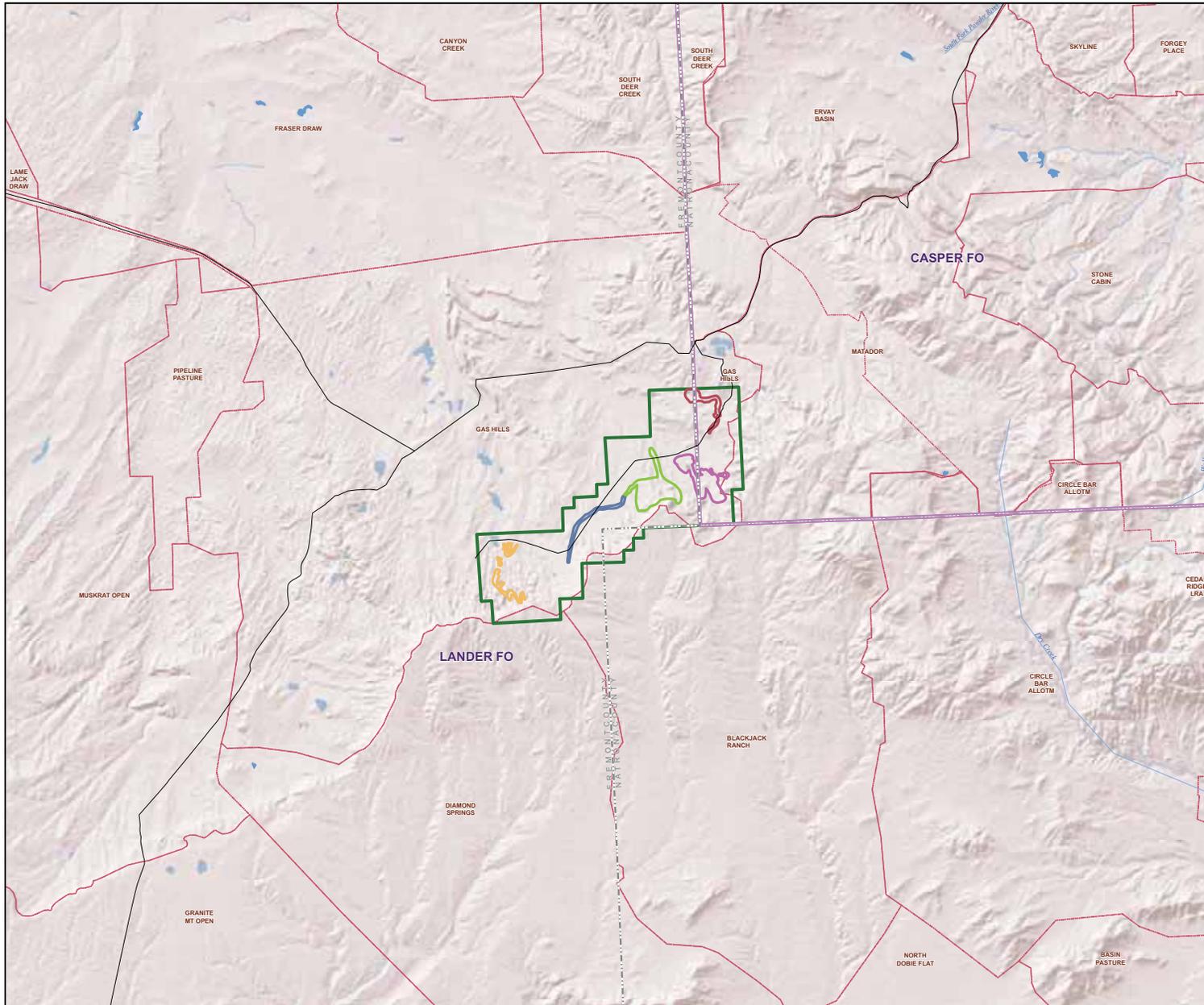
- ◆ A summary of the RMP revision process
- ◆ The previous Lander RMP (1987)
- ◆ Summary of the Analysis of the Management Situation
- ◆ Mineral Development Potential Report
- ◆ Travel Management Summary
- ◆ Public outreach materials (e.g., newsletters, news releases)
- ◆ Maps from the March 2010 open house

<http://www.blm.gov/wy/st/en/programs/Planning/rmps/lander.html>.



For More Information Contact the BLM Lander Field Office

P.O. Box 589, Lander, WY 82520 Phone: (307) 332-8400 Fax: (307) 332-8444
lrmp_wymail@blm.gov



Cameco Gas Hills ISR Uranium Project

FREMONT AND NATRONA COUNTIES,
WYOMING

Legend

- Local Road
- Lake/Reservoir
- Major Rivers
- County Boundary
- Gas Hills Permit Area
- Mine Units**
- Unit 1
- Unit 2
- Unit 3
- Unit 4
- Unit 5
- BLM Field Office Boundary
- Grazing Allotments



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Miles

WYOMING OVERVIEW
COUNTIES ROADS, CITIES
AND PROJECT AREA



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Cameco Gas Hills ISR Uranium Project

FREMONT AND NATRONA COUNTIES,
WYOMING

Legend

- Local Road
 - Lake/Reservoir
 - Major Rivers
 - - - County Boundary
 - Gas Hills Permit Area
- Mine Units**
- Unit 1
 - Unit 2
 - Unit 3
 - Unit 4
 - Unit 5
 - BLM Field Office Boundary
- Land Ownership**
- Bureau of Land Management
 - State



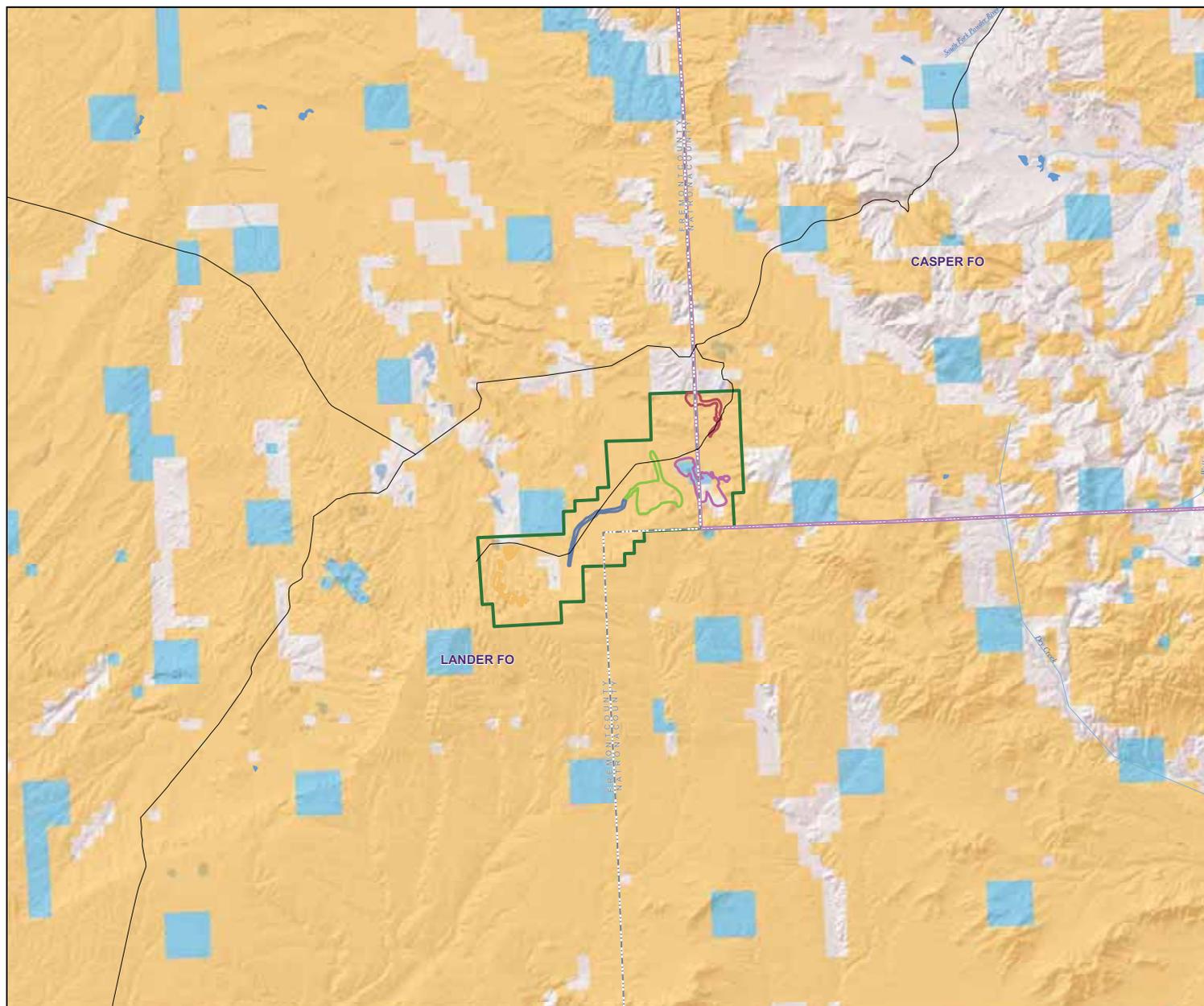
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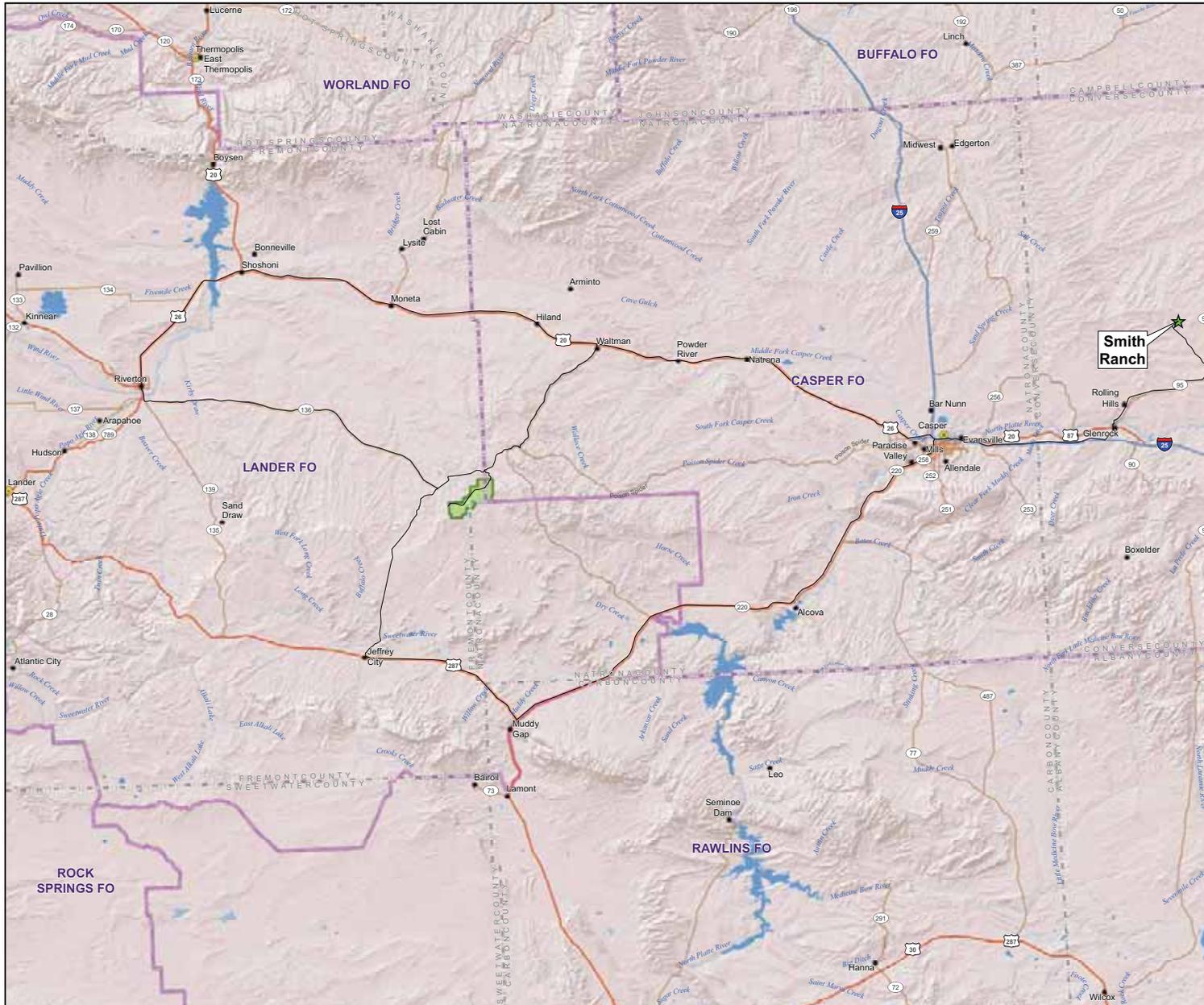


WYOMING OVERVIEW
COUNTIES, ROADS,
CITIES
AND PROJECT AREA



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Cameco Gas Hills ISR Uranium Project

FREMONT AND NATRONA COUNTIES,
WYOMING

Legend

- ★ Smith Ranch
- Administrative Features**
- City/Town
- County Seat
- Local Road
- Interstate
- US Highway
- State/County Highway
- - - County Boundary
- Lake/Reservoir
- Major Rivers
- Gas Hills Permit Area *Gas Hills Permit Area*
- BLM Field Office Boundary



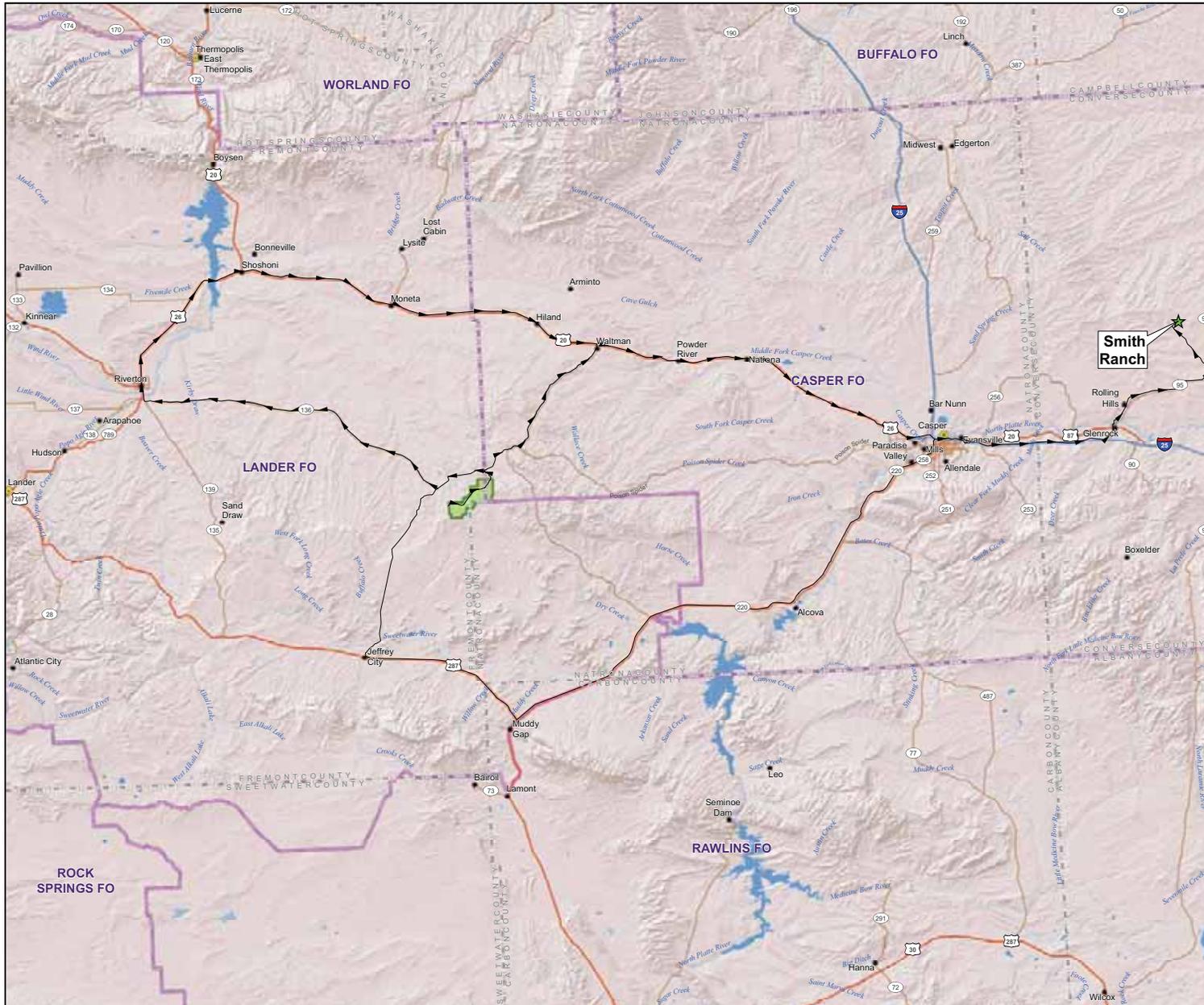
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WYOMING OVERVIEW
COUNTIES, ROADS,
AND PROJECT AREA



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Cameco Gas Hills ISR Uranium Project

FREMONT AND NATRONA COUNTIES,
WYOMING

Legend

- ★ Smith Ranch
- Administrative Features**
- City/Town
- County Seat
- Transportation Route
- Local Road
- Interstate
- US Highway
- State/County Highway
- County Boundary
- Lake/Reservoir
- Major Rivers
- Gas Hills Permit Area
- Gas Hills Permit Area
- BLM Field Office Boundary

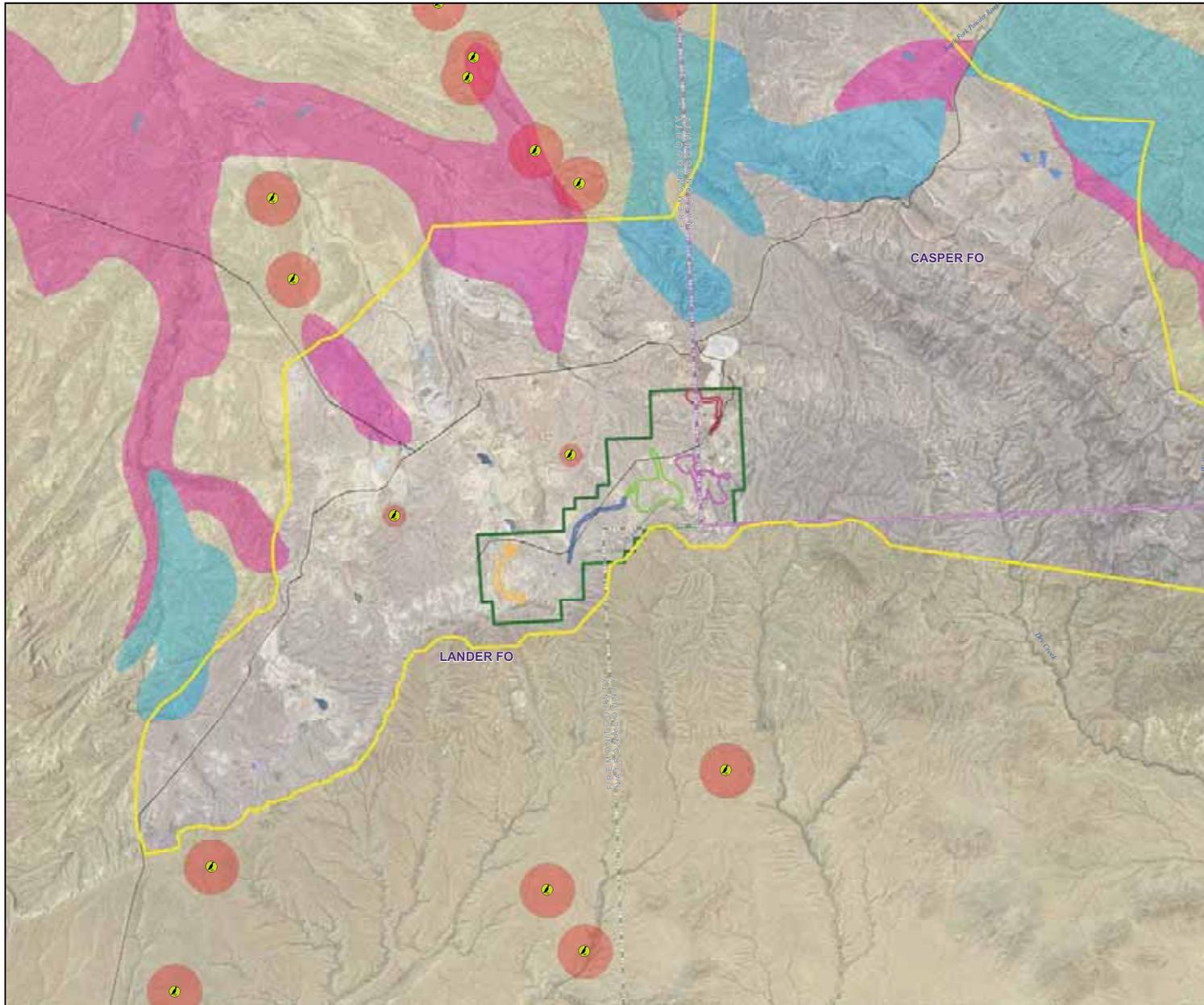


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WYOMING OVERVIEW COUNTIES, ROADS, AND PROJECT AREA



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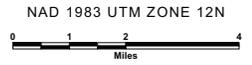


Cameco Gas Hills ISR Uranium Project

FREMONT AND NATRONA COUNTIES,
WYOMING

Legend

- Leak
- No Surface Occupancy (NSO)
- Sage Grouse Core Area
- Local Road
- Lake/Reservoir
- Major Rivers
- County Boundary
- Gas Hills Permit Area
- Mine Units**
- Unit 1
- Unit 2
- Unit 3
- Unit 4
- Unit 5
- BLM Field Office Boundary
- Big Game Crucial Ranges**
- Antelope
- Mule Deer



**WYOMING OVERVIEW
COUNTIES, ROADS,
CITIES
AND PROJECT AREA**



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Fold 2

Affix
Stamp

**Bureau of Land Management
Lander Field Office
Attn: Kristin Yannone
P.O. Box 589
Lander, Wyoming 82520**

Fold 1

Gas Hills Uranium Project EIS mailing list

To have your name added or removed from our mailing list for this project, please check the appropriate box and return this response sheet to us. Be sure to fill out the contact information on the reverse side. If you do not ask us to remove your name from our mailing list, we will send you future EIS-related announcements.

Yes, add my name to the mailing list to receive future information

No, please remove my name from your mailing list

Sign up to receive the Draft EIS

To receive the Draft EIS check the box below and tell us which format you would like.

Send me the Draft EIS in the following format:

CD-rom

Executive Summary only (about 50 pages)

Printed copies of the Draft EIS (about 500 pages) will be available at your local library or on BLM's Web site at <http://www.blm.gov/wy/st/en/info/NEPA/lfodocs/gashills.html>.



**Gas Hills Uranium Project EIS
Attendance Sheet**
Fremont County Library
Lander, Wyoming
October 28, 2010

Please Print Clearly

4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Name	Representing	Address	Telephone	Email	Mailing List? Y/N
Joshua Scheer	Lander Journal	332 Main St	332-2323	scheer.joshua@gmail.com	Yes
Kristin Yannon	BLM	LFO			
Sue Oberlie	BLM	LFO			
Jim Cagnay	BLM	LFO			
JOSH LEFTWICH	CAMECO RESOURCES	CHEYENNE			
Ken VAUGHAN	CAMECO RESOURCES	2020 Carey Ave., Suite 600, Cheyenne, WY 82001	307-316-7603	Kenneth-Vaughn@comeco.com	Yes
Amanda Small	BLM	LFO			
Victoria Fregoso	K2	VIDEQA PO 542 Riverton, WY 82501	312-882-4248	vfregoso@K2TV.com	Yes
Carol Hudsey		Box 883, Lander WY	332-0454	carlhudsey@wyomin.com	
Larry Reemana	Cameco Resources	401 East First Casper WY		larry.reemana@comeco.com	
Chris Krassin	BLM - LFO				
DAN HUNDLEY	Fremont Co A.T.V.	450 Aronetti Lander	307-714-2091		yes
Carolyn Rutland	BLM - LFO				
Cathy Purves	Trout Unlimited	250 North 1 st St., Lander, WY	307-332-6700	cpurves@tu.org	Yes
JJ Brown	Lamborn Welsh	805 S. Third St. Lander WY	307-335-8460	jjbrown@lambornwelsh.com	yes
Stuart Cervoski	BLM	LFO			
ROGER BOWER					
Jon Kaminsky	BLM	PO Box 589	307-332-8400	jon.kaminsky@blm.gov	
Wank Priesse	VIDEQ WQD	Lander			N
Shannon Rochelle		Lander	335-5567	strochelle@rightthink.org	N
Deb Harris		510 Meadowview Dr., Lander, WY 82520	335-6980		
Christine Helzlsouer		9 Trump Dr Lander			



**Gas Hills Uranium Project EIS
Attendance Sheet**
Fremont County Library
Riverton, Wyoming
October 27, 2010

Please Print Clearly

4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Name	Representing	Address	Telephone	Email	Mailing List? Y/N
CAL HANCOCK	LAZY YK CATTLE Co.	P.O. Box 1247 Riverton	307-851-3657		
ADA HANCOCK	LAZY YK RANCH Co	635 N. PAVILLION Rd PAVILLION	307-857-3779		
Amanda Small	BLM LEO				
Sandy Mossbrook	self				NO
Harold Schultz	WY Wildlife Fed	1502 E. Lincoln, Riverton	307-856-4555		
Doug Boehm	RRS Inc.	1225 Market, Riverton WY 82501	307 857 3079	dboehm@wyoming.com	yes
Tom Ochsmar	Stratmore	2420 Watt Ct Riverton WY	307-856-8000	tom.ochsmar@gmail.com	yes
Jason Wilson	Geologic Consulting	235 Fairway Dr	307-857-6922		
Terrence Osner	STM	2420 Watt Court	851-4833	tosner@stratmoreminerals.com	
Chris Carlsten	ben-wyso	5353 yellow rd Cheyenne WY 82009	307-735-6227	ccarlst@ben-wyso.com	no
	Philip Sheep Co	313 S. HIDDEN Valley Rd, Shoshoni, WY 82649	307-850-4595	philsheep@wyoming.com	yes
Jim Crowl	STM	304 Buckhorn Flats Rd, Riverton, WY 82501	307-850-3175	jimcrowl@stratmoreminerals.com	yes
TERRY CREWS	COG	405 So. 7th East ✓		TCREWS@wyoming.com	yes
Jeanne Dickinson	LT Drilling	2 Marlatt Rd Shoshoni, WY 82649	851-9691		yes
Louis Dickinson	Louis Drilling	903 Beth Dr.	857-3064		yes
Tom Casey	self	2851 Cambridge (me Mount, MN 55304)	(952)470-1099	TomCasey@frontier.net	yes
Robbie Flatten	self	2851 Cambridge Ln, Mount, MN			no
Liz Erickson	self	41 Sage Dr., Riverton, WY 82501	840-3932	ericklizerickson@yahoo.com	yes
Ken	Camaco				
Larry	Camaco				



**Gas Hills Uranium Project EIS
Attendance Sheet**
Fremont County Library
Riverton, Wyoming
October 27, 2010

Please Print Clearly

4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Name	Representing	Address	Telephone	Email	Mailing List? Y/N
Jamie Wilson	Titan Uranium		840-1860	jamiewilson@bresnan.net	N
Carrie Gavin	BPS, Inc.	Riverton	857-3079		N
Carolyn Ruffaud	BLM LFO	Lander			
Ernie Cooper	me	Choshoni	976-9453		N
Kristin Yarnone	BLM LFO				
Sue Oberlie	BLM LFO				
WANDALL MANKO		221 Shamrock Riverton 82501	856-5520		Y
Sandra Dead	Riverton Workforce Center (State of WY)	422 E Fremont 82501	856-9231	sdean@wyd.gov	Y
TOM POWELL	STRAITHMORE RESOURCES	2420 Waffle Ct., Riverton 82501	856-8080	TPPOWELL@WYAMING.COM	Y
Randy Hutchison	Self	200 Remshorn Dr Riverton 82501	856 3376		N
Dennis Oberlie	WYFD	260 Buena Vista, Lander 82500	332-2688		N
Steve Jones	Wy. Outdoor Council	262 Lincoln St, Lander WY 82520	307-352-7031	steve@wyomingoutdoorscouncil.org	Yes
Pam Buline	US Senator John P.arrasso	325 W. 17th St Riverton, WY 82501	856 6642	pam_buline@barrois50.senate.gov	Y
DICK INBERG	WY WILDERNESSES ASSOC	460 W. MOUNTAIN VIEW DR. RIVERTON, WY 82501	307-856-4339	DINBERG@WYOMING-COAL	YES
Cody Beers	WYDOT	PO Box 1784, Riverton, WY 82501	307-856-1341	cody.beers@dot.state.wy.us	Y
ROGER POWER	WBC	213 W STE C RIVERTON, WY 82501	307-857-1155	Roger.Power@wybusiness.org	Y
Dan Gregory	AECOM	1601 Prospect Plwy, Ft. Collins CO 80525	970-530-3519	Dan.Gregory@aecom.com	
Peter Vorak	me	220 MTN VIEW DR Riverton		PVORAK@WyomingCoal	Y

Appendix C

Comprehensive List of Scoping Comments

APPENDIX C

Air Quality

- The EIS needs a thorough analysis of criteria pollutants and emissions from project activities and associated mitigation measures.
- Study and explain all air pollutants generated by the project including emissions from construction and transportation.
- Describe any proposed pollution prevention techniques and control devices and impacts to air quality after mitigation.
- Describe the extent to which the project will generate odors, noise and dust during construction and operation, including sources, duration, characteristics, quantities, intensity, and proposed mitigation, and the impacts to human health.
- Air quality monitoring needs to start now in order to monitor the cumulative impacts of this and other projects in the area.
- Air quality monitoring needs to be included in the Plan of Operations, including dust particulates.
- New information regarding wildlife, produced water, *In situ* uranium mining, groundwater and surface water, air quality, and human resource impacts is not present in the outdated 1987 RMP.

Alternatives

- Treatment, storage, and disposal of waste water needs to be considered among the suggested alternatives.
- Development should be phased in, while reclaiming as the project moves forward.
- The EIS needs to discuss a broad range of alternatives.
- The BLM should consider other alternatives including phased or limited operations and additional mitigation measures.
- BLM should discuss a full range of alternatives and mitigation measures related to wildlife.
- Under a phasing alternative, the BLM needs to discuss how different mine units will proceed and what reclamation criteria must be met before proceeding to a new unit.
- Discuss alternatives to minimize or eliminate hazardous waste, discharge, or emissions.
- An adequate number of alternatives needs to be considered in the draft EIS.
- Various transportation routes need to be considered as alternatives.
- Reclamation of wildlife habitat at various acreages and rates of restoration need to be considered as alternatives.
- There should be consideration of different project life-cycles and spacing of development.

Cumulative

- The BLM NEPA handbook states that cumulative impacts should be considered during the scoping process; therefore, the final EIS needs to include a timeline for future exploration and development.
- Encourage BLM to conduct a thorough analysis of the environmental impacts of this project and others that are expected in the near future.

- BLM needs to fully consider cumulative impacts from other past, present and proposed future projects in the area.
- The BLM should fully analyze the cumulative impacts and refer to the project as one that will create new impacts.
- Concerns regarding the cumulative effects of other uranium and wind projects adjacent to the project area.
- Cumulative impacts data should be provided by reviewing the proposed project along with other proposed and active projects within the region.
- The EIS must include cumulative impacts of all of Cameco's future operations.
- Cumulative impact effects on livestock grazing operations must be evaluated in the EIS.
- Cumulative impacts should be considered, including uranium mining and non-mining activities in the area and beyond the site boundary.
- Cumulative impacts of other proposed *In situ* uranium extraction projects and their impacts on groundwater and surface waters.

Cultural Resources

- Ground surveys need to be conducted to identify the following resources, their proximity to the site and avoidance measures: archaeological, paleontological, grazing lands, existing or proposed recreation areas, Wilderness Study Areas, and scenic views and vistas.

General

- Western Area Power Administration has no transmission lines or facilities on or adjacent to the project area and therefore, has no comments.
- I hate to see those rugged mountains torn up and destroyed for the good of big mining companies. They will never be the same rugged and steep range when the big companies get done with them.

Geology and Minerals

- Need to identify any potential environmental hazards due to past site uses or proximity to nearby mines or pipelines.
- Describe any impacts on existing oil and gas wells and mitigation measures to avoid contamination of each well.
- Concerns regarding the proper geological conditions for *In situ* mining of uranium.
- Describe any geologic site hazards to groundwater and mitigation methods.
- Use of disposal wells must be reviewed for geological stability, faults, fractures, and permeability issues.

Hazardous Materials

- Indicate the number, location, size, and use of any aboveground or belowground storage tanks and describe any emergency response containment plans.
- Identify any radioactive toxic or hazardous materials to be used and measures to prevent them from contaminating groundwater.

- Identify methods and locations for disposal and indicate if there is a hazardous waste minimization plan and reduction assessment.
- Describe types, amounts, and composition of any solid, hazardous, and radioactive wastes.
- Discuss alternatives to minimize or eliminate hazardous waste, discharge, or emissions.
- Indicate the number, location, size, and use of any aboveground or belowground storage tanks and describe any emergency response containment plans.
- Identify any radioactive toxic or hazardous materials to be used and measures to prevent them from contaminating groundwater.

Land Use

- Need to discuss impacts to other land uses including hunting, recreation, and grazing and other leases in the Gas Hills.
- The EIS needs to describe acreages of land use cover types.
- By using our public lands as allowed by law, we can continue to extract minerals, keep people employed, and allow for multiple use without compromising our commitment to responsible development.

Mitigation/Reclamation

- Need to discuss measures to avoid adverse impacts.
- Fully discuss bonding and financial assurances.
- A landscape-scale environmental compliance and mitigation plan, including a matrix for wildlife, should be developed. The plan should consider compliance, monitoring, and remediation.
- Baseline data should be collected to assist in monitoring and mitigation efforts.
- Substantive mitigation requirements should be developed.
- A discussion of monitoring and evaluation measures needs to be included in the EIS, stating what the BLM's role will be.
- Need to discuss measures to avoid adverse impacts.
- There needs to be a discussion regarding the extent to which the project will disturb any pending or previous reclamation efforts, both on site or in the vicinity.
- It is apparent that any surface-disturbing activities in the project area will require extensive reclamation work.
- Concerns regarding the establishment of realistic reclamation timelines and goals.
- The BLM's impact analysis needs to include realistic timelines for reclamation, based on existing and ongoing reclamation activities. Any analysis should include amounts of sagebrush cover lost to previous mining activities and acknowledge the likelihood that future reclamation activities also may fail to adequately restore sagebrush to pre-disturbance conditions unless better design or implementation is employed.
- Compensatory mitigation should include movement of livestock to open allotments, monitoring of impacts, construction of water and range improvements, purchase or lease of additional grazing lands, and reimbursement for loss of AUM's.
- Successful mitigation and reclamation should be required and consequences of failure should be clearly stated.

- The project site has been degraded by past mining activities and serves as a reminder of how reclamation can fail.
- The project area will never be returned to its natural state.
- Bonding should be appropriate to the expense of the project and the environment.
- Bonding estimates should be based on life-of-project real time figures, inflation analysis, and include the cost of remediation.
- Reclamation standards should be developed based on review of past Gas Hills uranium reclamation efforts.
- Groundwater and surface reclamation standards need to be better than the average "standards" that the BLM traditionally implements.
- Surface reclamation in Wyoming is difficult and typically leaves visual scars. Phased reclamation should be developed with higher standards.
- Annual monitoring of reclamation efforts should be conducted and reviewed at public meetings where mitigation can be researched and implemented.
- Appropriate and significant bonding must meet the cost of development of the project.

NEPA Process

- The project will be reviewed and approved by regulatory entities and properly developed. Reclamation will successfully restore the land and aquifers to the original class of use.
- Discuss the project's compatibility with local comprehensive plans and regulations, RMP's, or NEPA documents.
- Trout Unlimited requests that the BLM conduct thorough environmental data reviews and studies.
- NEPA analysis should include the full extent of development as well as the indirect and direct effects and cumulative impacts of past present and foreseeable actions.
- New information regarding wildlife, produced water, *In situ* uranium mining, groundwater and surface water, air quality, and human resource impacts is not present in the outdated 1987 RMP.
- The West Metro Global Warming Action Group requests that the BLM complete the highest quality of EIS to ensure the American people that the best decision is made for our natural resources.
- A scoping decision is premature and the comment period must be extended until the Final Plan of Operations is made available to the public.
- Currently, the Plan of Operations is under review and the draft cannot be released, only reviewed in the BLM office.
- Request a site visit of the project area and the Smith Ranch Highland processing facility. This should occur after the release of the Final Plan of Operations and prior to the final scoping decision.
- The EIS must identify the science supporting decisions and discussions regarding the project.
- Suggest that the BLM needs to address all impacts in the EIS and all laws governing *In situ* mining. Failure to do so may lead to a violation of NEPA.
- The NEPA process is convoluted and confusing. How can cooperating agencies ensure that a complete analysis of impacts is being achieved?

- Trout Unlimited requests that the project be delayed until the new Lander RMP is released in 2011 and can be used for planning, development, and decision making.
- Trout Unlimited feels it is necessary to wait for the new RMP ROD release due to the possibility of contamination, compliance issues, and reclamation challenges that are associated with *In situ* uranium extraction.
- The project should include development guidelines and decisions using the new Lander RMP.
- The new Lander RMP should be used once the ROD is released, for development guidelines as opposed to the 1987 outdated RMP.

Notification

- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) would appreciate notification of any decisions made on this project. Notification can be sent in writing or emailed to [FW6 Federal Activities Cheyenne@fws.gov](mailto:FW6_Federal_Activities_Cheyenne@fws.gov).
- We [Plains Pipeline] have a pipeline in the affected area. The ROW is BLM and private but is on record. Please keep both Darin and myself [C. Drew Engstrom] in the loop as this project goes forward.

Noxious Weeds

- Increased human activity in the area will likely result in the expansion of noxious weeds. Analysis should include provisions for prevention and control of noxious weeds during and post development.
- The prevention and control of noxious weeds.

Opinion

- Writing in support of *In situ* uranium recovery. The project is important for allowing Wyoming to increase uranium production.
- The location of the project, being in an existing mining area with a history of uranium production, is a plus.
- The project will provide clean, affordable, and reliable nuclear energy and help our country to become self reliant.
- Cameco has a history of underestimating financial assurance requirements leaving the public at risk.
- The project will be reviewed and approved by regulatory entities and properly developed. Reclamation will successfully restore the land and aquifers to the original class of use.
- By using our public lands as allowed by law, we can continue to extract minerals, keep people employed, and allow for multiple use without compromising our commitment to responsible development.
- The quality of life for homeowners, livestock, ranching families, wildlife, and tourism will suffer if this project moves forward.
- Contingency planning for this project does not appear to be adequate.
- I understand that jobs for Fremont County are important but not more important than our future.

Proposed Action

- Encourage the BLM to refrain from describing the project area as one that is already heavily impacted and instead refer to it as a greenfield development site.
- The EIS needs to contain a complete project description and discuss construction and operation methods, features that will cause physical manipulation of the environment or produce waste, modifications to existing equipment and structures, and the timing.
- Adequate storage for several days worth of uranium should be built into the Plan in the event that roads become impassable.

Public Health

- The EIS needs to address issues concerning public access to the project area and radiological hazards that may exist.
- Polluted water will have impacts on the health of wildlife and the people of the community.

Public Involvement

- Suggest that a visit to the Smith/Highlands Ranch site, open to the public, be conducted since it is an integral part of the operation.
- Suggest that a site visit, open to the public, be conducted by Cameco and BLM jointly for a better understanding of ground disturbance.
- Suggest that a finalized plan of operations be made available to the public before the scoping comment period is closed.
- Wyoming Outdoor Council requests BLM extend the comment period until additional information can be made available to the public.
- Need to consider extending the scoping comment period until more information is made available to the public and a site visit can take place.
- The public is deprived of the right to review and comment on a document (Final Plan of Operations) that may affect the scope of the EIS.
- Request that the comment period be extended to 30 days after the Final Plan of Operations is released.
- Approve of BLM's scoping process and level of public involvement.
- Encourage BLM to allow the public to attend meetings with cooperating agencies and periodically post updated information on their website.
- Because a Final Plan of Operations is not available and a site visit has not been conducted, only a preliminary list of issues can be compiled.
- Fremont County Commissioners advise holding a public hearing in Jeffery City since it is the community that will be most affected by the project.

Purpose and Need

- The EIS should discuss the project's purpose and need, including existing stockpiles of uranium and if it will be used for domestic supply or sold abroad.
- The EIS needs to explain the project's purpose and need and its intended beneficiaries, including the amount of uranium that will go to the Department of Defense and foreign countries.

Range Resources

- The proposed plan should allow the BLM, grazing permittees, and Cameco the ability to work cooperatively. Flexibility to make the best site-specific, case-by-case decisions throughout the life of this plan should be addressed.
- List of potential impacts to rangelands, livestock grazing, and local socioeconomic conditions.
- In addition to economic values, grazing represents environmental and social values, preservation of open spaces, visual resources, and traditional and historical landscapes of Wyoming. Any loss of these values and resources to residences and visitors.
- Encourage BLM staff and operators to work closely with affected grazing permittees and continuously inform all who are directly and indirectly affected of the issues, decisions, and actions regarding this proposal.
- The EIS needs to discuss the positive effects of livestock grazing as a tool for achieving desirable environmental objectives and the project's impact on limiting the ability of livestock grazing to achieve these effects.
- The proposed plan should allow the BLM, grazing permittees, and Cameco the ability to work cooperatively. Flexibility to make the best site-specific, case-by-case decisions throughout the life of this plan should be addressed.

Recreation

- The National Park Service has determined that no parks will be affected by the project; therefore, they have no comments.
- The EIS needs to discuss potential social and recreational impacts.

Regulatory / Other Permits

- The EIS should evaluate this project in regards to its impact on FLPMA and the ability to provide food and habitat for wildlife and domestic animals.
- Congressional mandates, federal statutes, and implementing regulations call for multiple use, and should be an integral part of the assessment.
- The EIS needs to discuss the compliance history of Cameco regarding spills, leaks, and fluid excursions.
- Will BLM work with NRC and WDEQ to address spills, fluid excursions, and license violations?
- Will BLM conduct inspections and/or carry out enforcements?
- Discuss the project's compatibility with local comprehensive plans and regulations, RMP's, or NEPA documents.
- Discuss BLM's duties under FLPMA to prevent unnecessary degradation.
- Need to list all known local, state, and federal permits, statutes, regulations, and approvals and public financial assistance for the project
- Water well drilling standards need to exceed traditional standards due to the fact that contamination incidents often occur during well drilling and casement. The company and subcontractors should be held negligible for any incidents.

Social and Economic Resources

- A thorough economic analysis of *In situ* recovery should be conducted, including the potential for abandonment.
- The EIS should include a thorough social and economic impact analysis with emphasis on livestock grazing in and adjacent to the planning area.
- Concerns regarding an anticipated uranium boom and the impacts it may have on individual livelihoods and public resources.
- The mineral industry is the largest private employer in the state and supports the people of Wyoming.
- Need to discuss whether or not Cameco intends to sell its operation to Russia or another foreign country and what adverse economic impact that could have on the United States.
- The EIS needs to explain the economic impacts of the project, including estimated wages and number of construction and permanent workers. There also need to be a discussion of economic loss if other operations are curtailed.

Soils

- The use of BMP's to control erosion and protect water resources in the project area.
- Discuss acreages to be excavated, cubic yards of soil to be moved, and any steep slopes and highly erodible soils.
- Due to the topography and geology of the area, sedimentation and erosion concerns are high. Beaver Rim Divide contains sensitive soils and surface impacts should be considered.
- Describe erosion and sediment control measures to be used during and after construction.
- Need to discuss reclamation potential, erosion and sedimentation risks, and mitigation measures.
- Describe the soils on site and discuss soil granularity and potential for groundwater contamination from wastes or spills and mitigation measures.

Threatened and Endangered Resources

- Need to discuss measures to avoid adverse impacts.
- Recommend conducting a Project Impact Area Analysis due to the size and overall number of nearby leks.
- Recognition of Executive Order 2010-04 establishing greater sage grouse core areas and management recommendations from the Governor's Sage Grouse Implementation Team.
- Recommend requiring extensive lek searches within the area encompassed by the project.
- The need to conduct an accurate Project Impact Area Analysis in accordance with the Governor's Greater Sage-Grouse Core Area Protection Executive Order.

Transportation

- Fully discuss transportation routes and their impacts to BLM or public roads.
- Describe all transportation impacts including estimated total daily traffic generated, maximum peak hour traffic, impact on other present and future traffic, and necessary traffic and road improvements.

- Roads in the Gas Hills area can become impassable and halt production for days.
- WYDOT would like to receive information regarding employee numbers using the highway and haul schedules for the full production time frame.

Vegetation

- The EIS need to describe acreages of land use cover types.
- Need to discuss measures to avoid adverse impacts.
- Measures to control invasive plant species should be considered. Invasive plants have detrimental effects on wildlife and native plants
- Need to conduct ground surveys to identify wildlife and botanical resources and determine how they may be affected.

Visual Resources

- Determine the extent to which the project will impact visual resources during construction and operation.

Water Resources (Quality and Quantity)

- When proper documentation of well abandonment does not exist, an on-the-ground inspection needs to be conducted to ensure adequate plugging and abandonment.
- The USFWS is concerned with the potential for selenium accumulation in evaporative ponds receiving wastewater.
- Inventory of abandoned wells should be completed to ensure proper plugging and abandonment. This will help prevent communication of aquifers.
- Polluted water will have impacts on the health of wildlife and people of the community.
- Groundwater and surface water inventories must be conducted prior to project approval.
- Studies should include the potential communication and migration of groundwater to springs and remediation should contamination occur.
- The use of BMP's to control erosion and protect water resources in the project area.
- Need to compare the quality and quantity of site runoff before and after the project, and controls to manage or treat runoff.
- Describe waste water treatments and pollution prevention methods and estimate composition after treatment. Identify receiving waters and estimate discharge quantities.
- The *Federal Register* implies that Cameco will not restore groundwater to Safe Drinking Water Act standards. The EIS must explain these statements and study mitigation options.
- Cameco's plan to monitor pressure in the mineral zone as a means to ensure site integrity is insufficient. Documentation that all wells in the area have been properly plugged and abandoned needs to be conducted.
- To minimize impacts to aquatic resources, BMP's are recommended to control erosion and prevent sediment from reaching waterways.
- An inventory of groundwater and impacts to aquifers resulting from drawdown must be completed, including impacts to landowners, nearby streams and springs, and topography and habitat.

- Waste water must be disposed of in a way that minimizes contact with water, wildlife, and livestock, and is safe.
- Opposed to the project due to concerns regarding water quality.
- The BLM should review a letter from the EPA to the NRC (dated 3/3/10) to ensure that adequate consideration and analysis is given to various aspects of the project, including groundwater protection.
- If pumping from production wells were to cease, the cone of depression could be threatened.
- The EIS must contain an independent analysis of groundwater issues, to be conducted by the BLM.
- The EIS needs to discuss the likelihood of restoring water quality to baseline standards, especially given past difficulties Cameco has experienced.
- Groundwater and surface water inventories must be conducted prior to project approval.
- Describe any geologic site hazards to groundwater and mitigation methods.
- Trout Unlimited offers comments in this letter regarding surface and groundwater impacts, remediation, and cumulative impacts resulting from the project.
- Describe alternatives and mitigation to avoid adverse impacts to surface waters.
- Financial assurance estimates need to be scrutinized especially regarding groundwater and surface reclamation.
- Need to compare the quality and quantity of site runoff before and after the project and controls to manage or treat runoff.
- Studies should include the potential communication and migration of groundwater to springs and remediation should contamination occur.
- Need to discuss any methods that will be used for waste water disposal.
- Need to discuss whether evaporation ponds will be employed and how they will be protected. If used, surface impacts and surface water impacts need to be discussed.
- There needs to be a plan for maintaining the cone of depression in the event of a temporary shut down. If the cone is not maintained the groundwater in the area would be threatened.
- Extra caution needs to be taken due to the 15,000 wells already in existence in the project area and could lead to groundwater contamination.
- Removal of used excess water should not be placed in reclaimed water bodies or impoundments.
- The EIS should describe approximate depth to groundwater and bedrock.
- Cumulative impact studies must be completed on short and long-term use of groundwater supplies.
- The EIS needs to discuss what constituents will be left in the water if quality is not returned to baseline standards and what impacts that will have on water quality.
- Need to discuss estimated water consumption, source formations, amounts and impacts from groundwater drawdown.
- Discuss the nature and extent of any installation or abandonment of water wells, connection or changes to public water supplies, or appropriation of ground or surface water.
- Give the location and purpose of any new wells, and describe water quantities to be used.

- Identify routes and receiving waterbodies for runoff from the site and estimate impacts from runoff.
- Describe the sources and composition of all waste waters produced.
- Need to discuss the nature and extent of hydrological alteration of surface waters.
- I hope the BLM will conduct an indepth, exhaustive study on how this will impact our water table and reservoirs underground.
- Clean water is more important than uranium-to me, to the people of Fremont County, to the people of Wyoming.
- Issues include potential communication and migration from a groundwater perspective.
- Pre-development baseline surface and groundwater surveys need to be conducted on the project site and surrounding areas.
- Water quality studies need to review and analyze replacing groundwater aquifers to a pre-mining state that pre-dates any contamination from the surface mining of uranium of the 1980s.

Wildlife Resources

- Studies on the risks to wildlife and livestock due to access to contaminated water need to be completed, including a pre-development baseline survey and life-of-project monitoring.
- Need to conduct ground surveys to identify wildlife and botanical resources and determine how they may be affected.
- Habitat disturbance in the Gas Hills that has occurred as a result of past mining activity and resulted in long-term loss of sagebrush cover.
- The Gas Hills Uranium project is within winter and yearlong habitat for mule deer and antelope. The surface disturbance associated with this development will be substantial.
- Work that could lead to the take of migratory birds or eagles, eggs, young, or nests should be coordinated with USFWS prior to the action (see pages 5-6 of USFWS letter).
- Removal or destruction of nests or nesting trees, or activities causing abandonment of nests will need to be authorized by either timing of project actions, proper mitigation, or issuance of permits (see pages 5-10 of USFWS letter).
- No nest manipulation is allowed without a permit issued by the USFWS' Migratory Bird Office. If a permit cannot be issued the project may need to be modified to ensure that take does not occur.
- Disposal of injection wastewater can expose migratory birds to selenium which is known to cause impaired reproduction and mortality in some birds.
- Disposal of injection wastewater through irrigation or land application is not recommended by the USFWS due to the potential for bioaccumulation of selenium in the food chain and adverse effects to migratory birds.
- Submerged aquatic vegetation and aquatic invertebrates in evaporation ponds can make waterborne selenium available to migratory birds.
- Need to discuss the best available science from agencies regarding impacts to sage-grouse and the possibility of timing stipulations and no-surface-activity buffers.
- Need to discuss the full range of impacts to sage-grouse habitat.
- Need to describe all wildlife populations present and impacts to their habitat.

- Surface disturbance should be minimized to limit wildlife impacts, especially on big game and sage grouse habitat.
- Environmental impact analysis needs to assess the potential for wildlife mortality along access roads due to increased project-related traffic.
- Seasonal stipulations for the protection of nesting raptors and winter range for mule deer and pronghorn antelope should recommend no surface disturbing activities between November 15 through April 30.
- Concerns regarding large concentration of sage grouse and the potential for the discovery of additional leks in proximity to the project area.
- The need for seasonal stipulations to minimize disturbance to mule deer and pronghorn crucial winter ranges.
- The need for seasonal stipulations to protect raptor nesting habitat.
- Concerns regarding wildlife mortality associated with increased traffic in the project area.
- The need to conduct an accurate Project Impact Area Analysis in accordance with the Governor's Greater Sage-Grouse Core Area Protection Executive Order.
- Concerns regarding impacts to big game and sage grouse due to loss of sagebrush.
- Concerns regarding impacts to wildlife due to poaching.
- Concerns regarding impacts to wildlife due to increased human presence and vehicular traffic.