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Thursday, September 13, 2012

John Russell, Project Manager-Renewable Energy  
Final EIS – Lost Creek ISR Uranium Project  
BLM – Rawlins Field Office  
P.O. Box 2407  
Rawlins, WY 82301-2407

RE: Sweetwater County's Comments Regarding the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Lost Creek ISR Project

Dear Mr. Russell:

The Sweetwater County Board of County Commissioners (Board) would like to thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Lost Creek Energy ISR Project. Since mineral development provides approximately 75 percent of the County's economic base that supports the high quality of life that is enjoyed by the residents of Sweetwater County, the Board welcomes the Lost Creek ISR Project to the County.

To ensure that the review of the Final EIS for the Lost Creek ISR Uranium Project is completed in a manner that complies with Sweetwater County's goal to "Encourage a balance between resource development and environmental protection", Sweetwater County's offers the following comments for consideration and inclusion into the Final EIS:

**Sweetwater County Permits and Authorizing Actions:** To ensure compliance with Sweetwater County's regulations and proper development coordination with County agencies and departments, Sweetwater County requests that the Final EIS Table 1.4.1 be amended as shown in red text on the copy of this table, which is attached to this letter.

**Intergovernmental Cooperation and Community Impacts:** Sweetwater County Comprehensive Plan - 2002 encourages cooperative interaction between local, State and Federal agencies. With this goal in mind, Sweetwater County encourages the BLM and Lost Creek to continue their efforts in soliciting comments from the Towns of Wamsutter and Bairoil and proactively address their concerns with the Environmental Impact Statement process. Also important to Sweetwater County is consideration of project impacts to our neighbors Carbon County and the City of Rawlins. Community concerns that should be considered include: housing, school capacity, traffic patterns (especially for heavy equipment and supplies being transported through communities), law enforcement, health service and other public services.

**Free on Board (FOB):** Sweetwater County encourages the BLM, to the greatest extent possible under the BLM's authority, to encourage Lost Creek and its contractors and subcontractors to deliver construction materials "Free on Board" (FOB) to the County in which the materials will be utilized. This will help ensure that the sales tax will be properly allocated and paid to the County where construction and related impacts will occur.



**Protection of Natural Features:**

**Historic and Cultural Sites:** The Sweetwater County Comprehensive Plan - 2002 calls for the County to "Identify and protect the County's unique cultural, recreational and environmental resources" and to "Encourage a balance between resource development and environmental protection". With these goals in mind, Sweetwater County appreciates the BLM's efforts in inventorying and planning for impacts that may occur to historical and cultural resources. Sweetwater County supports these planning efforts and the protection of these important resources, but at the same time Sweetwater County strongly encourages the BLM to carefully consider and balance how the protection of Historic and Cultural Sites will affect the ability of Lost Creek to develop and utilize their resources for economic gain. Sweetwater County's economy depends on mineral extraction, which makes it important that the preservation of Historic and Cultural Sites occur in a balanced manner that also protects the viability of this project and the economy of Sweetwater County.

**Wildlife:** Sweetwater County supports the State of Wyoming Sage Grouse Core Area Program, and appreciates that the BLM and Lost Creek are planning Alternatives that will comply with this program.

Again, Sweetwater County strongly supports the Lost Creek ISR Uranium Project, and if you have any questions regarding Sweetwater County's above comments related to this project's Final EIS, please contact me at 307-872-3897.

Sincerely,



Wally J. Johnson, Chairman  
Sweetwater County Board of County Commissioners

cc Jerimiah Rieman, Governor's Natural Resource Policy Advisor  
John Ruhs, BLM High Desert District Manager  
Dennis Carpenter, BLM Rawlins Field Office Manager  
Sweetwater County Board of County Commissioners  
Temple Stoellinger, WCCA Natural Resource Attorney  
Kent Connelly, President - Coalition of Local Governments  
Mary Thoman, President - Sweetwater County Conservation District  
Eric Bingham, Sweetwater County Land Use Director  
John Radosevich, Sweetwater County Public Works Director



1.0 INTRODUCTION

Table 1.4-1 List of Regulatory Requirements (Page 3 of 4)

PERMIT OR LICENSE	STATUS	COMMENTS
<i>State (cont'd)</i>		
WSEO, Permit for Storage Ponds	Approved May 2010.	Permit No. 13595R.
Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD), Wildlife Monitoring and Protection Plan	Approved.	Approval required as part of WDEQ-LQD Permit to Mine.
<i>County</i>		
Sweetwater County Planning Commission, County Development Plan	Conditionally Approved December 2009	Must meet Development Plan Conditions required by Sweetwater County Board of County Commissioners Resolution 09-12-ZO-01
Sweetwater County Health Department Septic System	Submitted June 29, 2009.	Sweetwater Health Department Septic Tank Permit approved by Permit 11- 82 on April 14, 2011.
Sweetwater County Public Works Director, Road Use and Maintenance Agreement	If not already done prior to BLM approval of proposed action, LCI would prepare and submit.	Sweetwater County Board of County Commissioners and the Sweetwater County Public Works Department, as of September 11, 2012, has not received a draft of said Road Use and Maintenance Agreement.
Sweetwater County Department of Engineering, County Road Crossing and Access Permits or Licenses		

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Table 1.4-1 List of Regulatory Requirements (Page 4 of 4)

PERMIT OR LICENSE	STATUS	COMMENTS
<i>County</i>		
Sweetwater County Emergency Management Hazmat Inventory	Provide with remaining items required by the Conditional Development Plan.	Required by Federal Tier II Regulations.
International Fire Code Compliance	Current coordination with SWCO	Comply with Sweetwater County Resolution 09-12-ZO-01
Sweetwater County Weed and Pest	Coordination recommended during construction and site operation	Noxious and invasive weed control coordination. Contact: Gale Lamb, Supervisor Sweetwater County Weed and Pest District 307-874-6107
Sweetwater County Work Camp Conditional Use Permit	If a work camp or man camp is Planned, a Sweetwater County Conditional Use Permit is required	If planned, a conditional use permit is required for all man camps or work camps prior to construction.