



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Royal Gorge Field Office
3028 East Main Street
Cañon City, Colorado 81212

3809 LLCOF02000
COC-074166

CERTIFIED MAIL – 7017 1000 0001 0751 5922
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Western Union Corporation	:	
Attn: Michael Rutter	:	
31127 Hwy 90 Rd.	:	Surface Management
Nucla, CO 81424	:	

NOTICE EXPIRED – RECLAMATION REQUIREMENTS INCOMPLETE

The Western Union Corporation Notice, COC-074166 to conduct uranium exploration drilling located in Fremont County, T. 17 S., R. 73 W., section 27, expired on October 10, 2020. A final inspection was conducted on August 25, 2020 (Enclosure 1) and BLM determined all reclamation requirements for bore hole abandonment (bore hole and drill pad number Hndd010) had been met; however, Class A noxious weeds (i.e., thistles) and erosion along the reclaimed access road were present. Per 43 CFR 3809.335(b), all reclamation obligations continue beyond the expiration of the Notice, until reclamation has been satisfied.

The following corrective actions were proposed by the operator during the August inspection to meet final reclamation requirements:

1. The operator will hire a certified weed sprayer to spray for any Class A or B noxious weeds in spring 2021. BLM will require a copy of the noxious weed report.
2. The operator will construct a bar ditch to divert storm/meltwater runoff toward the existing drainage channel to help control short-term erosion and increase vegetation regrowth along the reclaimed access road.

The BLM resource specialist will continue to monitor your progress in meeting your reclamation obligations. BLM will inform you when all reclamation standards have been met and whether your financial guarantee will be reduced or released; currently held by Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (CDRMS) in the amount of \$154,937.

All activities after the expiration date, except reclamation, are not authorized and must cease as required by 43 CFR 3809.335. Any unauthorized activities continuing after the expiration date

will be subject to enforcement actions. If the operator files a new Notice or Plan of Operations, the requirements of the 43 CFR 3809 regulations, including, but not limited to, environmental review of Plans of Operations under the National Environmental Policy Act, and full cost bonding under 43 CFR 3809.500 for both Notice- or Plan-level operations must be met prior to resuming operations.

If you have any questions, please contact Amber Sanderson at 719-269-8750.

Sincerely,

Keith E. Berger
Field Manager
Royal Gorge Field Office

1 Enclosures

1 – BLM inspection, dated August 25, 2020

cc: Tim Cazier – CDRMS



Minerals Exploration/Sampling/Testing Inspection
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Royal Gorge Field Office



The BLM has conducted an inspection of your operations, which concludes whether the documented operations on file with BLM are compliant or non-compliant. Any non-compliance issues are reported in the Additional Actions Necessary section of this inspection.

Operation Type: ☐ 3600 ☐ 3809 w/ occupancy ☒ 3809 w/o occupancy

Date: Aug 25, 2020 Time: 10:23 Weather: Sunny	Operation Name: Western Uranium Case Number: COC-74166 CDRMS Number: P2009025
Attendees BLM: J. Elkington S. Carter Operator(s): Michael Rutter Other(s): Tim Cazier - CDRMS	General Operation(s) are in compliance with documentation on file <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A Operation(s) and disturbance on-site coincide with the operations and access on file <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A

Inspection Purpose: ☐ Pre-Operations ☒ General ☐ Final ☐ Trespass ☐ Complaint

Inspection Items	Compliant	Non-Compliant	N/A
1. Method of Operations			
Drilling, Trenching/Surface Excavation & Underground Excavation			
a. Drilling	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. Pad Construction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii. Drill/Drilling Equipment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iii. Mud Pits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iv. Borehole Abandonment/Monitoring Well Conversion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Complete <input type="checkbox"/> Incomplete	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
v. Pad Reclamation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Trenching/Surface Excavation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
i. Trench/Excavation Construction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii. Trench/Excavation Stability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii. Excavation/Reclamation Equipment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iv. Trench/Excavation Reclamation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Underground Excavation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
i. Portal Construction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii. Portal Stability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii. Blasting Operations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Internal <input type="checkbox"/> External	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iv. Excavation/Reclamation Equipment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
v. Portal Reclamation/Conversion of Entry	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. Site Conditions			
a. Material/Waste Rock Management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Erosion & Stormwater Control	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Man-made Structures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Weed Management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Safety Conditions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Interim Reclamation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g. Interim Management Plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Item Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thistles are present on site, operator sprayed for weed management about 12 months ago. Operator indicated that they would spray for weed management next Spring (2021). Revegetation is adequate with grasses, yarrow, and voluntary ponderosa pine growing on site. Some erosion is present along the access road and operator will construct a bar ditch to funnel the water off the access road and into an existing drainage. There is animal grazing on site. 			

Inspection Items	Compliant	Non-Compliant	N/A
3. Housekeeping			
a. Container Management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Spills/Leaks Observed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Hazardous Substances/POL Management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. General Housekeeping	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Access			
a. Road Management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Berms	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Security	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Signage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Surface Water Controls	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Quality Assurance/Quality Control			
a. Routine Site Conditions Monitoring	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Air, Water, Noise, Other Monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Monitoring Reporting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Regulatory Submittals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Other Agency/Entity Permits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Final Reclamation			
a. Exploration/Sampling Location	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Access Roads/Trails	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Grading	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Revegetation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Removal of Structures	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Free of Trash	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Occupancy & Use – under the Mining Law (3715 regs)			
a. Occupancy Concurrence on File	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Occupancy Remains Reasonably Incident	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

c. Substantially Regular Work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Exploration Equipment is Mobile	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. Other Equipment/Materials Used for the Maintenance, Repair or Fabrication of Parts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f. Occupancy Related Structures & Signage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Additional Actions Necessary	
Non-Compliance Issues to be addressed by Operator	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	
Final Notes	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The notice for reclamation expires 10/10/2020. Operator will treat the thistle weeds next spring (2021). Some erosion is present along the access road to drill pad/site number Hndd010. To limit erosion, the operator will construct a bar ditch to funnel the water off the access road and into an existing drainage. Operator is currently in the final reclamation stage at drill pad/site number Hndd010 and will mostly likely put in the request for release of bonding in the next couple years. Drill pad/site number Hndd010 is the only site that is located on BLM land. Other drill pads/site numbers observed during the inspection are not on BLM land. This drill pads/site numbers are Hndd009 and Hndd011. Other drill pads and monitoring wells not looked at during the inspection which are not on BLM land include: Hnd001, Hnd002, Hnd003, Hnd004, Hnd006, MWC-109, MWC-21-150, MWC-21-202, MWC-21-210, MWC-21-216, MWC-21-219, MWC-27-287, MWC-27-290, MWC-27-291, MWC-27-292, MWC-27-293, MWC-27-294. At all observed drill pads the operator has removed silt fences, snow fences, buckets, wood, waddles, wire, etc. Operator has abandoned piezometers in accordance with State of Colorado requirements. Boreholes are sufficiently labeled, and operator visits the site every year. 	
Date inspection shared with CDRMS:	
Date inspection shared with Operator:	

Images

Image 1: (Image taken by J. Elkington, 08/25/20)



Comment: Signage on drill pad/site number (Hndd010). The site is reclaimed and has a capped borehole. A piezometer was previously present at this location.

Image 2: (Image taken by J. Elkington, 08/25/20)



Comment: Visible thistle growth on drill pad/site number (Hndd010). Operator will spray for weed management next spring (2021). Viewed to the east.

Images

Image 3: (Image taken by J. Elkington, 08/25/20)



Comment: Adequate revegetation on access road near drill pad/site number (Hndd010). Growth of grasses, yarrow, and voluntary ponderosa pine. Viewed to the west.

Image 4: (Image taken by J. Elkington, 08/25/20)



Comment: Some erosion is present along the access road near drill pad/site number (Hndd010). Operator will construct a bar ditch to funnel the water off the access road and into an existing drainage. Viewed to the northwest.

Image 5: (Image taken by J. Elkington, 08/25/20)



Comment: Drill pad/site number (Hndd011) at different location, not on BLM surface. The site is reclaimed and has a capped borehole. A piezometer was previously present at this location.

Image 6: (Image taken by J. Elkington, 08/25/20)



Comment: Drill pad site stake (Hndd011) with acceptable reclamation with sufficient growth of grasses. Animal grazing on site. This site will mostly likely be released of bonding in the next year. Viewed to the east.

Images

Image 7: (Image taken by J. Elkington, 08/25/20)



Comment: Unknown drill hole with no drill PVC cap near drill pad/site number (Hndd009). Operator will need to put a PVC cap on this drill hole.

Image 8: (Image taken by J. Elkington, 08/25/20)



Comment: We covered the unknown drill hole near drill pad/site number (Hndd009) by putting a rock over the drill hole. Operator will need a PVC cap on this drill hole to limit cross-contamination with the aquifer.

Images

Image 9: (Image taken by J. Elkington, 08/25/20)



Comment: Most likely drillpad/site number (Hndd009) with good revegetation on access road. Could see broken off stake post underneath the T-post. Viewed to the southeast.

Western Uranium Site Map



General Vicinity near Tallahassee Creek
Fremont County, CO



NOTE TO MAP USERS

No warrantee is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of the data layers shown on the map. The official land records of the data providers should be checked or current status on any specific tract of land. FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY.



0 50 100 200 300 400 Feet



STATE OF
COLORADO

Cazier - DNR, Tim <tim.cazier@state.co.us>

FW: Western Uranium - BLM Notice Expiration and Reclamation Status Letter

1 message

Carter, Stephanie S <sscarter@blm.gov>
To: "Cazier - DNR, Tim" <tim.cazier@state.co.us>

Wed, Feb 24, 2021 at 10:36 AM

Best Regards,

Stephanie Carter, P.G.

Geologist

Bureau of Land Management

Acting Colorado Coal, Non-Energy Leasable & Mineral Material Programs Lead

Phone (719) 269-8551

Email sscarter@blm.gov

From: Sanderson, Amber M <asanderson@blm.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2021 10:35 AM
To: Michael Rutter <mrutter@western-uranium.com>
Cc: Carter, Stephanie S <sscarter@blm.gov>
Subject: Western Uranium - BLM Notice Expiration and Reclamation Status Letter

Hi Michael,

Attached is your Notice expiration letter and August 2020 inspection report. Per the inspection, noxious weeds and erosion along the reclaimed road were present. Since reclamation standards have not yet been met, the Notice will remain open.

Please let me know when y'all spray for weeds and a bar ditch is installed to divert stormwater away from the reclaimed road. I'll conduct a final inspection to check that all reclamation obligations have been met and hopefully sign off on drill pad Hnnd010 and close the case.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Take care,

--

Amber Sanderson

Geologist - Mining Law and Mineral Materials

Acting Project Lead

U.S. Dep't of Interior Region 7 - Upper Colorado Basin

BLM Royal Gorge Field Office

[3028 E. Main St.](#)

[Cañon City, CO 81212](#)

Phone - (719) 269 - 8750

2 attachments



022221_Western_Uranium_Notice_Expired_letter signed.pdf
385K



08252020 Black Range Minerals Inspection.pdf
2011K