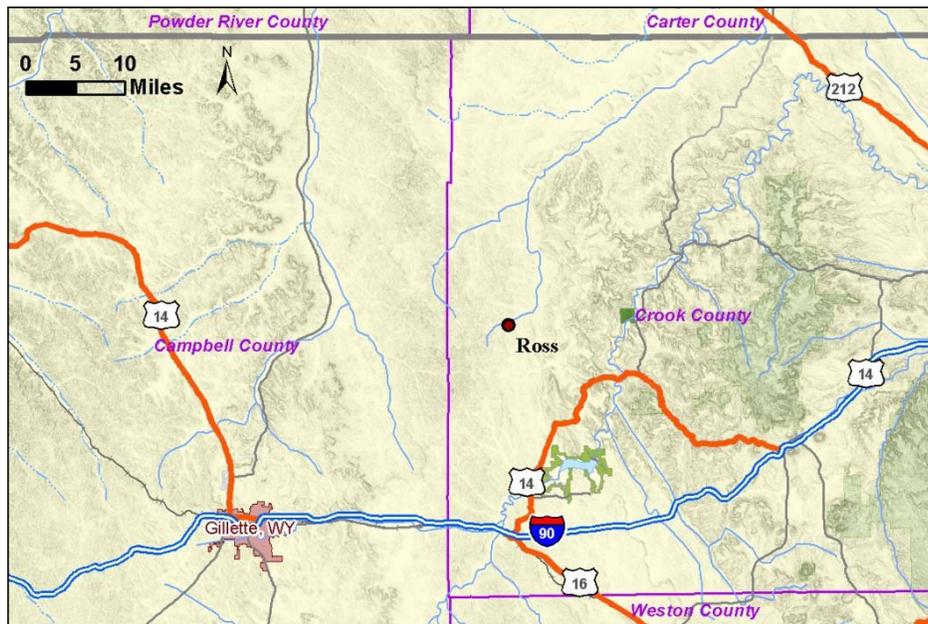


Strata Energy, Inc. Ross Uranium Recover Facility

Site Location and Project Description

The Ross uranium recovery facility is located approximately 35 km [22 mi] north of the town of Moorcroft and Interstate-90 in Crook County, Wyoming (Figure 1). Other nearby towns and approximate direct distances to the Ross Project area include Pine Haven (27 km [17 mi] southeast), Gillette (53 km [33 mi] southwest), and Sundance (48 km [30 mi] southeast). The Ross Project area is adjacent to the unincorporated ranching community of Oshoto. The Oshoto community includes 11 residences within 3 km [2 mi] of the Proposed Action's boundary. Access to the Ross Project area is by either County Road (CR) 68 (D Road) or CR 164 (New Haven Road).



The total area within the site boundary is approximately 696 ha [1,721 ac] in portions of Sections 7, 17, 18, and 19, Township 53N, Range 67W, and portions of Sections 12, 13, and 24, Township 53N, Range 68W. The land ownership is largely privately owned (approximately 80 percent) whereas the Federal and State governments own approximately 18 and 2 percent, respectively.

The uranium ore body occurs at depths of 76 to 200 meters (m) (250 to 650 feet [ft]) below ground surface (BGS) with the thickness of the ore body between 30 and 60 m (90 and 180 ft). The average grade of uranium ore body is approximately 0.05-percent equivalent U_3O_8 . Operations are planned to occur in two well fields and a central processing plant. Uranium One plans to extract uranium using the in-situ recovery method, which consists of injecting a combination of native ground water, sodium bicarbonate or carbonate, and oxygen into the ore body.

Project Licensing and Operating History

By letter dated January 4, 2011, Strata Energy, Inc. (Strata) submitted an application to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for a new source and byproduct materials license for the Ross Uranium Project. The NRC staff issued Source and Byproduct Materials License SUA-1601 to Strata on April 24, 2014. Issuance of the license has undergone an adjudicatory review through a NRC's Atomic Licensing and Safety Board (ASLB) panel, which is pending a petition for review by the Commissioners. A ruling on the petition for review is expected during 2016.

The facility has been given authorization to operate and has been operating since December 2015. The operations are being conducted in the first mine unit Mine Unit 1, which is located north of Oshoto Reservoir. Strata has elected not to install the elution circuit or dryers at this time; therefore, the current production is to the ion exchange level; uranium-laden resins are transported off-site to another licensed facility for processing to yellowcake.

Strata has submitted a request for expansion to the Kendrick Expansion Area as an amendment to the Ross license. NRC staff is currently reviewing that amendment request.

Groundwater Protection and Airborne Effluent and Environmental Monitoring Program

Because of the recent startup of operations, data for the monitoring program are limited at this time.

Additional Information

For more information about the Ross Uranium Recovery Facility, visit the NRC uranium recovery website at <http://www.nrc.gov/info-finder/materials/uranium/> or contact the NRC facility project manager, John Saxton, at (301) 415-0697 or john.saxton@nrc.gov.

