

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

HYDRO RESOURCES, INC.

(A Subsidiary of Uranium Resources, Inc.)

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FEDERAL EXPRESS AND EMAIL

David Albright
Groundwater Office Manager
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street, Mail Code: WTR-9
San Francisco, California 94105
albright.david@epa.gov

Re: Determination of Whether HRI, Inc.'s Approximately 160 Acres of Land Located in the Southeast Portion of Section 8, Township 16N, Range 16W, in the State of New Mexico, is a Dependent Indian Community Under 18 U.S.C. §1151(b).

Dear Mr. Albright:

Hydro Resources, Inc. (HRI) hereby submits its comments in response to the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) November 2, 2005, Federal Register Notice regarding a determination of the Indian country status of the approximately 160 acres of land located in the southeast portion of Section 8, Township 16N, Range 16W in the State of New Mexico that comprises HRI's Church Rock, New Mexico Section 8 property (Section 8 land in question). Also submitted herewith is an Appendix containing documents referenced in the comments. Resolution of this matter is necessary to determine whether EPA or the State of New Mexico has jurisdiction to issue an underground injection control (UIC) permit under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) for the Section 8 land in question.

For the reasons set forth in HRI's submitted papers, HRI requests that EPA make a final determination that the Section 8 land in question is **not** Indian country under 18 U.S.C. § 1151(b) and thus it is the State of New Mexico that has the jurisdiction to issue a UIC permit under the SDWA for the Section 8 land in question.

Sincerely,



Craig S. Bartels
President, Hydro Resources, Inc.