

July 14, 2000

Mr. Jeff Syrop
3389 Mallard Court
Hayward, CA 94542

Dear Mr Syrop:

I am responding to your letter, to President Clinton, on your concerns about issues regarding control of releases of solid materials from licensed facilities.

At this time, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is in the preliminary stages of examining its approach on controlling solid material and is seeking public input to its decision-making process through various forums. An initial step in that process was to prepare, for public comment, a paper that discusses issues associated with alternative courses of action. This "Issues Paper" was published in a Federal Register notice (FRN) on June 30, 1999 (64 FR 35090), with a comment period that was originally scheduled to close on November 15, 1999, but which was extended to December 22, 1999. To provide further opportunity for public input, NRC held a series of public meetings, during the Fall of 1999, at four locations, as announced in the FRN. Information about current NRC efforts in this area, including the contents of the Issues Paper, opportunities for further public comment, and summaries of comments at the public meetings held to date, is available on NRC's website address at: <http://www.nrc.gov/NMSS/IMNS/controlsolids.html>. The NRC website can be accessed, using internet services, on computers at home or available at local schools or libraries.

Currently, the Commission is reviewing a paper by the NRC staff summarizing the public's concerns, expressed both during the public meetings and in written comments, along with the staff's recommendations on how to proceed regarding control of solid materials at licensed facilities. To assist it in review of that paper, the Commission held two separate meetings, open to the public, in May 2000. At the first meeting, the staff briefed the Commission on the paper, and at the second meeting, representatives of various stakeholder groups were provided with an opportunity to express their comments and concerns to the Commission. Transcripts and written statements from those meetings can be accessed on NRC's website.

Please be assured that we will consider your comments, along with those of others that are received, as part of NRC's decision-making process.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Donald A. Cool, Director
Division of Industrial and
Medical Nuclear Safety, NMSS

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Hayward, CA 94542

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Sincerely,
orig. signed by
Donald A. Cool, Director
Division of Industrial and
Medical Nuclear Safety, NMSS

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