

September 15, 2000

Mr. Richard G. Telfer
Educational Directions
5357 Spencer
Las Vegas, NV 89119

SUBJECT: PACKAGE PERFORMANCE STUDY MEETING IN LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

Dear Mr. Telfer:

Thank you for your August 17, 2000, letter and for attending the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) August 2000 Package Performance Study (PPS) meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada. Public participation on the PPS has significantly improved the study's results to-date. I understand your frustration with the meeting. Specifically, I agree with you, that not enough time was spent discussing the substantive issues presented in the PPS Issues Report and NUREG/CR-6672 Discussion Paper. Fortunately, opportunities exist for continued interaction through written comments, our website, and future meetings (not yet scheduled) as the study develops. In addition, we have applied lessons learned at the Nevada meeting to a similar meeting held in Rockville, Maryland, on September 13, 2000. For example, we discussed PPS issues before NUREG/CR-6672, increased the time devoted to PPS, and addressed testing issues at the opening of the meeting. This format appeared to work better.

As the citizens and government organizations in Nevada have a particular interest in transportation and disposal of spent nuclear fuel, increasing communication in Nevada on NRC activities is important to NRC. To this end, we are continually seeking ways to improve how we conduct public meetings and the topics we present and discuss. Feedback such as your letter is valuable input to that process.

I look forward to your comments on the Package Performance Study Issues Report and NUREG/CR-6672 Discussion Paper, and I have verified that your name remains on the Package Performance Study mailing list.

Sincerely,
/RA/ original signed by /s/
Susan F. Shankman, Director
Licensing and Inspection Directorate
Spent Fuel Project Office
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

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