

July 17, 2001

TO: Stakeholders for the MolyCorp (Washington PA) Site
Stakeholders for the Sequoyah Fuels Corporation Site
Stakeholders for the Jefferson Proving Ground Site

SUBJECT: U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION PROJECT REGARDING
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN RESTRICTED USE DECOMMISSIONING

I am sending this letter to you to request your cooperation in a U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) project regarding public participation in cases where licensees request license termination with restrictions on future site use. 10 CFR 20.1403(d)(2) of the NRC regulations contains specific requirements for public participation as part of licensees' proposals for license termination with restrictions on future site use. In view of these requirements, the NRC has concluded that it would be useful to develop best practices for meeting the performance objectives of the NRC public involvement regulations. In addition, we are working to develop a roster of professional, neutral facilitators to assist in community dialogues at sites proposed for license termination with restrictions on future site use.

The NRC has selected the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution (USIECR) to perform this work. The USIECR is in a unique position within the Federal government to provide assistance to NRC by: 1) developing best practices for public participation in NRC programs, and 2) providing information on, and referrals to, qualified neutrals.

In order to develop guidance on best practices for public participation in NRC programs, the USIECR plans on contacting stakeholders, such as yourself, to gather information on public participation experiences. The USIECR's information gathering will focus on three licensed sites: MolyCorp (Washington, PA); Sequoyah Fuels Corporation (Gore, OK); and Jefferson Proving Ground (Madison, IN). These sites were selected based on their historically high level of stakeholder involvement. It is important to note that USIECR's contact with these sites and their stakeholders is solely for the purpose of developing general guidelines and best practices for possible future use by any licensee. USIECR's contact with these sites will have no regulatory implication for these three sites. Furthermore, the fact that USIECR will focus on these three sites has no bearing on whether these sites will or will not pursue restricted use decommissioning.

The actual site visits will be conducted by Dale Keyes, Senior Program Manager (USIECR) and Douglas J. Sarno, Principal, of the Perspectives Group (who is working as a subcontractor for USIECR on this project). They may be contacting you to set up the site visits and gather information.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at: Decommissioning Branch, Division of Waste Management, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555. Telephone (301)415-6664; Internet: KLK@nrc.gov. I greatly appreciate your cooperation.

/RA/ S Moore For

Kenneth Kalman
Environmental Scientist
Decommissioning Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
And Safeguards

cc: DKeyes, USIECR
Molycorp (Washington, PA) Dist. List
Sequoyah Fuels Corporation Dist. List
Jefferson Proving Grounds Dist. List

