

November 5, 2001

Mr. Fred. W. Giffels
Chief Executive Officer
HGP, Inc.
49 Greenland Drive
Greenville, South Carolina 29615

Dear Mr. Giffels:

Thank you for your letter to Chairman Meserve in which you express dissatisfaction with NRC's action in not resuming publication of the plant status report on our web site.

As you know, we have been systematically reviewing information for sensitive content in light of the September 11 terrorist attacks. The process of identifying thousands of pages of material is daunting, to say the least. Nevertheless, we have already identified certain classes of information that we likely will no longer make available on our web site.

We are aware that certain organizations, including the financial community, use the plant status report extensively for their daily business transactions. We have given the review of this report high priority, but I'm sure you can appreciate the many uncertainties that exist in this new era of information sharing. We want to make sure that any decision we make in this regard is the right decision from the standpoint of public health and safety and the defense and security of our country.

The decision on which documents to restore to our web site will seriously challenge our long time practice of allowing the public open and convenient access to many of our activities, programs and policies. As you state in your letter, with each decision on which document to restore, we will be balancing the public's right to access our information with any potential security implications on our country.

We appreciate your thoughtful proposals and alternatives and will take them under consideration as we formulate our decision regarding the plant status report.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Patricia G. Norry
Deputy Executive Director
for Management Services

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