

February 21, 2003

Mark J. Langer, Clerk
U. S. Court of Appeals
E. Barrett Prettyman U.S. Courthouse
333 Constitution Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

RE: State of Nevada, et al., v. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, No. 02-0116

Dear Mr. Langer:

Enclosed you will find the original and four copies of the "Motion to Extend Briefing Deadline and to Modify Briefing Schedule" in Nevada v. USNRC, Case No. 02-0116. Please date stamp the enclosed copy of this letter to indicate date of receipt, and return the copy to me in the enclosed envelope, postage pre-paid, at your convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

/RA/

Steven F. Crockett
Attorney
Office of the General Counsel

Enclosure: As stated

cc: service list

STATE OF NEVADA, *et al.*,
Petitioners,
v.
U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
and THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Respondents.

Pursuant to District of Columbia Circuit Rule 28(f), the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the United States request a 12-day extension of time, to and including March 19, 2003, to file an answering brief in the above-captioned case. We also request an appropriate modification in the remaining briefing schedule. Counsel for all other parties have consented to the extension of time and to the modified schedule. We ask that this Court grant this motion for the following reasons.

2. The recent large snowstorm and resulting transportation problems in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area have disrupted research by our attorneys and delayed preparation of initial drafts. An extension of the briefing deadline will allow us to submit a thorough analysis that will aid this Court's disposition of this case.

3. By order dated November 7, 2002, this Court granted the petitioners' suggestion that the above-captioned case be considered in tandem with several related cases, No. 01-1258, *et al.*, and No. 01-1516, *et al.*, involving the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). The Court accordingly postponed oral argument in this case from its original date, May 5, 2003 (see order of October 9, 2002), until a yet-to-be-determined date in September 2003. Hence, a short extension of the current briefing schedule will not delay disposition of this case or interfere with this Court's consideration of it.

4. It is necessary to coordinate the NRC position in the current case with agency and U.S. Department of Justice counsel in the related EPA and DOE cases. This coordination requires extra time to assure a consistent and well-considered government position.

5. Final briefs in one of the related cases, *Nevada v. Department of Energy*, No. 01-1516, etc., will not be filed until May 20, 2003. Under the modified briefing schedule proposed below, final briefs in the present case will be filed the next day.

6. Counsel for all parties consent to the schedule proposed below. It attends to their schedules and provides enough time for them to complete their briefs.

7. We therefore propose the briefing schedule set out below (which includes a 12-day postponement in the current March 7 deadline for our answering brief, and equivalent postponements in other deadlines). Final briefs would be filed more than 3 months before oral argument.

Petitioners' Brief	Already filed
Respondents' Brief	Wednesday, March 19, 2003
Intervenor for Respondents' Brief	Wednesday, April 9, 2003
Petitioners' Reply Brief	Wednesday, April 23, 2003
Deferred Appendix	Wednesday, May 7, 2003
Final Briefs	Wednesday, May 21, 2003

For the foregoing reasons, we ask that the court grant this motion to modify the briefing schedule.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN BRYSON
RONALD M. SPRITZER
Attorneys, Appellate Section
Environment & Natural Resources Div.
U.S. Department of Justice
P.O. Box 23795
Washington, D.C. 20530

_____/RA/_____
JOHN F. CORDES
Solicitor
Office of the General Counsel
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

_____/RA/_____
E. LEO SLAGGIE
Deputy Solicitor
Office of the General Counsel
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

_____/RA/_____
STEVEN F. CROCKETT
Senior Attorney
Office of the General Counsel
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555
301-415-2871

February 21, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on February 21, 2003, copies of the foregoing motion to modify the briefing schedule were served by mail, postage prepaid, upon the following counsel:

Brian Sandoval, Attorney General
Marta A. Adams, Senior Deputy Attorney General
State of Nevada
100 North Carson Street
Carson City, Nevada 89701

Joseph R. Egan
Charles J. Fitzpatrick
Martin G. Malsch
Howard K. Shapar
Egan & Associates, PLLC
7918 Jones Branch Drive, Suite 600
McLean, Virginia 22102

Charles J. Cooper
Robert J. Cynkar
Vincent J. Colatristano
Cooper & Kirk, PLLC
1500 K Street, N.W., Suite 200
Washington, D.C. 20001

Antonio Rossmann
Roger B. Moore
Law Office of Antonio Rossmann
380 Hayes Street, Suite One
San Francisco, California 94102

William H. Briggs, Jr.
Ross, Dixon & Bell, L.L.P.
2001 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006-1040

Elizabeth A. Vibert, Deputy District Attorney
Clark County, Nevada
500 South Grand Central Parkway
Las Vegas, Nevada 89106

Bradford R. Jerbic, City Attorney
William P. Henry, Senior Litigation Counsel
City of Las Vegas, Nevada
400 Stewart Avenue
Las Vegas, Nevada 89101

Michael A. Bauser
Ellen C. Ginsberg
Nuclear Energy Institute, Inc.
1776 I Street, N.W. Suite 400
Washington, D.C. 20006

_____/RA/_____
Steven F. Crockett