

RAS 6310

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April 9, 2003

Michael C. Farrar, Chairman
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Dr. Peter S. Lam
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Dr. Jerry R. Kline
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Re: Private Fuel Storage LLC (Private Fuel Storage Facility)
Docket No. 72-22
Potential Oral Argument on PFS Motion for Reconsideration

Dear Administrative Judges:

In its April 4, 2003 Memorandum and Order concerning the March 31, 2003 Motion for Reconsideration filed by Private Fuel Storage, L.L.C. ("PFS"), the Licensing Board stated that it might hold oral argument on the motion and advised the parties that, if oral argument were held, it may be conducted in Salt Lake City.

With respect to the location of the possible oral argument, PFS would respectfully ask that the Board consider using the NRC's video-conferencing capability for such an argument.. The video-conferencing capability has been successfully used previously in this case for similar purposes. For example, the video-conferencing facility was used for the December 11, 1998 oral argument on SUWA's intervention petition and for the prehearing conference of January 17, 2002. An oral argument of the contemplated for the motion for reconsideration would seem to be precisely the type of activity for which the Commission's facility was designed.

On the other hand, holding oral argument in Salt Lake City would require both the Board and counsel for PFS and the NRC Staff to travel to Utah solely for purpose of the oral argument, at considerable time and expense. By using the NRC's video-

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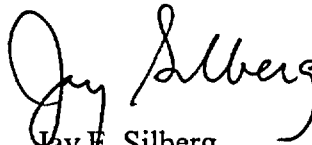
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Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
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conferencing capability, State counsel could effectively participate in the argument, as parties have done previously, and the Utah press and public could see and hear the argument without incurring the burden of a lengthy trip on the Board and counsel for PFS and the Staff.

We appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Jay E. Silberg

cc: Service List

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