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NRC JUDGE DENIES REQUEST FOR STAY IN CASE OF BUCKS COUNTY, PA, IRRADIATOR

A Nuclear Regulatory Commission judge has issued an order denying a request to stay the effectiveness of the NRC license recently awarded to CFC Logistics, Inc. The NRC staff issued a license to the company in August for the operation of a commercial underwater irradiator at its Milford Township (Bucks County), Pa., cold storage facility.

A petition for a hearing on the CFC application was submitted to the NRC on June 23 by a group of nearby residents, many of whom are members of the group Concerned Citizens of Milford Township. The Chairman of the NRC's independent Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel designated a Presiding Officer, Judge Michael C. Farrar, to rule on the petition and to preside over a hearing should the hearing request be granted. Subsequently, the petitioners filed a request for a stay. Oral argument was held on the request for a hearing and the stay request on September 10 in Allentown, Pa. Regarding the request for a hearing, the Judge has not yet issued an opinion on the issues of the petitioner's standing or the germaneness of the concerns they raised.

CFC Logistics stated in its application that the irradiator would be employed primarily for the irradiation of food, cosmetics and pharmaceutical products. CFC also said it might be used to irradiate a wide range of other materials.

Copies of the order may be obtained from the Region I Office of Public Affairs.

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