June 20, 2003

Mr. David Tiktinsky Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555-0001

Subject: Savage Systems Revised Application

Dear Mr. Tiktinsky:

Thank you for your email of June 12, 2003 letting us know that you will be reviewing our application for our two archery tritium sight pins. We understand that the NRC's standard rules are that applications will be reviewed within six months. As mentioned in our telephone conversation of June 18, our business is very seasonal and we do not wish to pass a second year without being able to furnish these pins to our industry. Since you may be relatively new to our subject, I will give you some file history that may be of some help or importance in speeding up our review. It is as follows:

- 1. These archery sight pins are our design and are made to fit Savage Systems own archery sights. However, we were purchasing these pins from Meprolight beginning in 2001 because we did not have our own NRC license. These pins are included in Meprolight's approved application with the NRC. Meprolight does not have any more of these pins to sell to us so we can support hundreds of our customers.
- 2. The NRC has approved these pins again with our Savage application in 2002.
- 3. In our approved application, we made a mistake in the quantity of tritium gas in each of the pins. The manufacturer of the tritium source, SRB Technologies in Canada, states that the quantity that was approved in our application (.014m ci) is insufficient to make the fiber optic glow in our pins. As such, our license is useless and is of no benefit to us. In our revised application, we are simply asking for an increase in tritium. It is difficult for us to understand that this may take six months! Dr. Roy Parker of Baton Rouge, LA, who is a degreed professor in tritium and/or radiation, prepared our revision. Any technical questions that you may have should be directed to Dr. Parker.

Page 2 Mr. Tiktinsky June 20, 2003

While I do not wish to take up your valuable time that could be spent on reviewing our application, I have included various correspondences so you may have an idea of how much time, money, and frustrations that we have encountered trying to acquire our NRC license. Our company has suffered severely by not having products to sell. In comparing our business with the auto industry, if you don't have the wheels for the cars, you don't have any cars to sell. Thus, we cannot sell archery sights without sight pins. Some of our prime customers, like Cabela's and Bass Pro, have threatened to take us off their Approved Vendors List if we miss shipments again this year. When this happens, Savage Systems is history. Last year we pleaded to our state representative and US senator for help with the NRC. At this time we are asking for your help and understanding of our critical situation. Timing is most important as our archery season is upon us. Should our review take six months, we will have missed another year and it is doubtful Savage Systems can survive two years in a row waiting for the NRC.

Your help and the NRC's cooperation in speeding up our review is desperately needed and appreciated by all concerned. Please advise if you think this is possible. Thank you.

Very sincerely,

Huey Savage

General Manager

Enclosures: Correspondence letters as follows:

- 1. March 20, 2002 from Huey Savage of Savage Systems to Richard A. Leonardi, Jr. of the NRC
- 2. March 25, 2002 from State Representative Francis Thompson to Senator Landrieu
- 3. April 1, 2002 from Senator Breaux to Huey Savage of Savage Systems
- 4. May 29, 2002 from William Travers of the NRC to Senator Breaux
- 5. June 19, 2002 from Senator Breaux to Huey Savage of Savage Systems
- 6. September 16, 2002 from myself (Huey Savage) to Senator Breaux
- 7. September 30, 2002 from Senator Breaux to Huey Savage of Savage Systems
- 8. November 25, 2002 from William Travers of the NRC to Senator Breaux
- 9. December 9, 2002 from Senator Breaux to Huey Savage of Savage Systems

March 20, 2002

Mr. Richard A. Leonardi, Jr. United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission 611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 400 Arlington, TX 76011-8064

Subject: Savage Tritium Archery Sight Pins (Night Hawks)

Dear Mr. Leonardi:

Subsequent to our last telephone conversation of 3-15-02, I wish to stress once again the importance of the tritium archery sight pins to the survival of our company. As mentioned to you in our last two conversations, we have orders left from last year, in addition to current orders and future orders that cannot be filled. Last year one of our largest customers (Cabala's) wanted to back-charge us for orders that they received and could not fill since they had advertised them heavily in thousands of their we do not wish to go through another year like last year. While the United States is trying to pull out of a recession, the NRC's on-going investigation (for more than a year) has created further hardships with supplier of tritium archery sights in the United States (perhaps the world) as we sell to dealers, publications for sale through out the entire archery industry with not one for sale at this time. Waiting on the NRC for some unknown reason.

We realize that since 9-11-01 we may be a "very little fish in a big pond". And, we certainly appreciate the NRC protecting our country, but this product is our "big fish" that makes up our livelihood. We need to know something soon from the NRC so we can protect our business, our customers and their customers. If we are doing anything wrong, please let us know so that we can correct our mistakes and move forward. If we can be of any help toward your investigation, if there is one, please so advise. Your help and concerns are appreciated. If this letter is misdirected, please forward it to the person within your firm that it should go to. Thank you.

Very Sincerely,

Huey Savağe General Manager

CC Congressman John Cooksey, MD

U. S. House of Representatives – 107th Congress

Senator John Breaux

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. Charman, Agriculture Appropriations Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget House Executive Committee

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FRANCIS THOMPSON

District 19

March 25, 2002



The Honorable Mary Landrieu United States Senate Room 326 Federal Building 707 Florida Street Baton Rouge, La. 70801

Dear Mary:

Enclosed is a copy of the letter sent to the U S Nuclear Regulatory Commission from Huey Savage of Savage Systems in Oak Grove which explains his situation with regard to their request for a conclusion on the investigation by the NRC regarding their tritium archery sight pins.

They have waited for over a year for an answer from this agency and there seems to be no indication when that response will come. As you can see from his letter this has caused problems not only for him but also for his customers some of which are major sporting goods outlets.

I feel that if you would have someone from your staff contact the NRC regarding this situation it may result in a finalization of their investigation and result in allowing them to secure the material to complete their products and get these sights on the market to dealers nationwide.

You know how important our sporting and recreational time and equipment is to us in the south especially here in Louisiana as the "Sportsman's Paradise" state and I hope you can encourage a faster response from this agency in this matter. It would mean a lot to this local business as well as to those distributors of his archery sight across the country.

As always your continued support and concern for our constituents is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Francis C. Thompson State Representative District 19

FCT:bec

MAJORITY CHIEF DEPUTY WHIP

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WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1803

April 1, 2002

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> CENTRAL LOUISIANA (318) 487-8445

Mr. Huey Savage General Manager Savage Systems, Inc. 110 North Front Street Oak Grove, Louisiana 71263

Dear Mr. Savage:

Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission regarding tritium archery sight pins

I have contacted the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to ask that your views and concerns be given every appropriate consideration within federal guidelines. I have also asked for appropriate information responding to the issues you've raised. Once I receive a response, I will be back in touch with you.

If I can assist you in any other way, please call on me at any time.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,

OHN BREAUX Inited States Senator

JB/mdp



UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

May 29, 2002

02 世里 17 四 2:21

The Honorable John Breaux United States Senate Washington, DC 20510-4904

Dear Senator Breaux:

I am responding to your letter of April 2, 2002, which enclosed a letter from one of your constituents, Mr. Huey Savage of Savage Systems, Inc., to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). Mr. Savage is concerned that an NRC investigation is delaying his ability to sell luminous archery sights that contain tritium, a radioactive material, and this delay is having an adverse impact on his business.

NRC safety regulations require that consumer products containing radioactive material, such as these luminous archery sights, be initially distributed by an organization licensed by NRC. In this case, Mr. Savage wishes to obtain the sights from an NRC licensee, Meprolight, Inc., in New York. Based upon an NRC inspection, it appears that Meprolight previously made unauthorized distribution of the sights containing tritium to Savage Systems, and those findings need to be addressed. In a Confirmatory Action Letter (CAL) to Meprolight, Inc., dated November 15, 2001, NRC documented Meprolight's commitment to cease distribution of those tritium sights until the device registration certificate has been amended to include those sights and the distribution license has been amended. Meprolight applied to NRC for the required amendments in late January 2002. It is NRC's policy that the review of applications of this type be completed within six months. NRC is on track to complete this review in four months.

The staff has been in telephone contact with Mr. Savage and has been keeping him informed of our progress. In the most recent conversation, Mr. Savage was informed that the archery sight reviews should be completed by the end of May 2002. We will continue to keep your constituent informed of our progress and are working to resolve this case expeditiously.

I trust that this information responds to your constituent's concerns.

Sincerely,

William D. Travers Executive Director

for Operations

JOETN BREAUX LOUISIANA

MAJORITY CHIEF DEPUTY WHIP

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senator@breaux.senate.gov http://www.senate.gov/~breaux United States Senate Washington, DC 20510-1803

June 19, 2002

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> CENTRAL ECRUSIANA (318) 487-8445

Mr. Huey Savage General Manager Savage Systems, Inc. 110 North Front Street Oak Grove, Louisiana 71263

Dear Mr. Savage:

In response to your letter to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission regarding tritium archery sight pins, I contacted federal officials. Enclosed is the response provided to me from the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

If I can assist you in any other way, please let me know.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,

JOHN BREAUX United States Senator

JB/nmz Enclosure September 16, 2002

The Honorable John Breaux United States Senator Washington, DC 20510-4904

Subject: Feed back of Your June 19, 2002 Letter

Dear Senator Breaux:

Thank you for your letter and for the response letter from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) in regards to our tritium archery sight pins. At this time I feel that feed back to your office is well in order for the following reasons:

(1) In Mr. Travers letter to you, (copy enclosed) he stated that they were on track to finish their review in four months from late January of this year.

(2) In another paragraph of that same letter he stated that they should complete their review by the end of May.

(3) As of this date, three and half months later, the NRC still has not released our pins. Yet, they see <u>nothing wrong</u> with them!

(4) Our pins have been on hold since November 15, 2001.

Sir, we have taken their words of completion seriously and have passed those promises on to hundreds of our customers. Our customers, in turn, have passed their promises on down the line to hundreds of others. Almost every day our staff spends half of their day making excuses for the NRC. While some of our customers are sympathetic since 9-11, others are boiling and will not trust Savage Systems again.

In order to prevent this from happening again, we applied for our own NRC license in late May of this year. This way we would not have to depend upon another licensee in a foreign country. Our 17-page application took considerable time and energy of Savage Systems because of vast amounts of NRC regulations, testing etc. We were told that the application fee would be \$3,400 and would not take long as we have only two sight pins with the same small tritium source in each. These pins were the same ones that we were selling prior to being put on hold. Well, the fees ended up being a joke. (Please see my fax of frustrations to the NRC of 7-26-02). They came back to us two different times asking for additional money to complete our application. That sum now totals \$7,700 instead of \$3,400 as originally quoted. Had we known this, perhaps we would not have applied for our own license. The NRC admitted that they were in error on each of the first two quotes. To date, we have no license and no pins to sell.

Without the pins, we can't sell the sights that they go on. At the present our company status is as follows:

- (1) We are down approximately 40% in sales
- (2) We had to lay off employees
- (3) We have had thousands of dollars of orders cancelled
- (4) We lost our largest rep organization that sold for us in most of the United States
- (5) Approx. \$50,000 worth of our ads went down the drain, not to mention all of our dealers, distributors, mail order and chain store firm's ads that went south as well.
- (6) Our 12-year reputation had dwindled along with our bank account

Sadly, the above could have easily been prevented had the NRC been totally honest with us and done their job as promised. While I am proud to be an American and want to help defend our country, I am not proud to be associated with any organization that doesn't meet their commitments. Could it be that the NRC needs some adjustments? Or, is this just a "norm" for them? And, I would appreciate your views.

Sincerely,

Huey Savage General Manager MAJORITY
CHIEF DEPUTY WHIP

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CHAIRMAN
WASHINGTON OFFICE

(202) 224-4623 TDD (202) 224-1986 September 30, 2002

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1803

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Mr. Huey Savage General Manager Savage Systems, Inc. 110 North Front Street Oak Grove, Louisiana 71263

Dear Mr. Savage:

Thank you for contacting me regarding the letter from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission regarding tritium archery sight pins.

I have contacted the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to ask that your views and concerns be given every appropriate consideration within federal guidelines. I have also asked for appropriate information responding to the issues you've raised. Once I receive a response, I will be back in touch with you.

If I can assist you in any other way, please call on me at any time.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,

JOHN BREAUX United States Senator

JB/nmz



UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

November 25, 2002

02 DEC -6 PH12: 01

The Honorable John Breaux United States Senate Washington, DC 20510-4904

Dear Senator Breaux:

I am responding to your letter of September 30, 2002, which enclosed a letter to you from one of your constituents, Mr. Huey Savage of Savage Systems, Inc. In Mr. Savage's letter, he expressed concern about the continued delay in the completion of a distribution license amendment. In a previous letter to you on May 29, 2002, Mr. Savage noted, with concern, that an NRC investigation was delaying his ability to sell luminous archery sights that contain tritium, a radioactive material, and that this delay was having an adverse impact on his business.

Mr. Savage wanted to obtain the sights from an NRC licensee, Meprolight, Inc., in New York. Based on an NRC inspection, it appeared that Meprolight previously made unauthorized distribution of the sights containing tritium to Savage Systems. Meprolight later committed to cease distribution of the sights until its distribution license had been amended. As a result of the inspection, an investigation was initiated into the circumstances of the unauthorized distribution. Because of the nature of the investigation, NRC chose not to complete the license amendment review until the investigation was completed and its results resolved. On October 15, 2002, final resolution of the investigation was obtained. NRC is now expediting completion of the Meprolight license amendment review. To avoid this delay from happening again and not having to depend on another licensee, Mr. Savage applied for his own NRC license. NRC expects to complete its review of this application by the end of December.

In the same letter to you on September 16, 2002, Mr. Savage further expressed his concern that the fees charged for this new license application were initially incorrect. When we first spoke with Mr. Savage, we advised him of the application fee based on our understanding of the type of license for which he was applying. However, upon receipt of his application, it was determined that, in addition to a distribution license, he also needed to register his product. We advised him of the fee for that type of registration. Subsequently, during the review of his application, it was determined that the type of license he had applied for was different from the one we initially discussed with him and, at that time, we advised him of the fee for that type of license. Mr. Savage is current with his application fees and we believe the basis for the fees has been explained to his satisfaction. Mr. Savage also understands that he will be subject to annual fees each year for both his materials license and product registration.

The staff continues to be in telephone contact with Mr. Savage, is keeping him informed of our progress, and is working to resolve this case expeditiously.

I trust that this information responds to your constituent's concerns.

Sincerely,

William D. Travers Executive Director for Operations JOHN BREAUX

LOUISIANA

MAJORITY CHIEF DEPUTY WHIP

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1803

December 9, 2002

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Mr. Huey Savage General Manager Savage Systems, Inc. 110 North Front Street Oak Grove, Louisiana 71263

Dear Mr. Savage:

In response to your letter to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission regarding tritium archery sight pins, I contacted federal officials. Enclosed is the response provided to me from the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

If I can assist you in any other way, please let me know.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,

JOHN BREAUX

United States Senator

JB/nmz Enclosure