

Mr. Richard A Meserve
Commissioner
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
One White Flint North
Room 17D1
Mail Stop 16C1
Rockville, MD

November 9, 2001

Dear Mr. Meserve:

During the past month, The NRC has placed limited access on the data base from Oak Ridge, containing the public information on all Sealed Source and Device Registration sheets. In the course of our work, Sabia makes use of these sheets to review the safety features of all gauges that we perform service for our customers in the field. These customers include coal mines and cement plants, where perfect record-keeping and perfect documentation of gauges does not always exist. Often, our field engineers do not have a manufacturer of model number of a gauge source head until they physically inspect the item personally on-site. At this time, they make use of a laptop computer to access the Internet to obtain the SS&D sheet for the gauge. For the past few weeks, this has not been possible.

In the interest of safety, our field engineers need prompt access to this information.

I have contacted Jim Myers of the NRC, who is in charge of the web site for State and Tribal Information. He has stated that we must contact the State of California, in order to obtain this information.

Subsequently, I have contacted Mr. David Wesley of the Materials Licensing Branch of the Department of Health Services of The State of California. He has stated that we can obtain a copy of the SS&D sheet for any gauge registered in the State of California, but for all other gauges, we must obtain the information through the Freedom of Information Act, with a formal submittal by mail.

This presents, for us, an unacceptable delay in order to safely provide services for our customers. Our operation procedures, and our radiation safety procedures have been written and properly used, making proper, prompt use of the NRC database available over the Internet, for obtaining and reviewing the safety features and normal radiation profiles for all gauges prior to performing any work, including leak testing and maintenance on these gauges. This is a proper use of this data base and should be supported by the NRC, rather than suppressed.

What can be done to gain access to this important information on a timely fashion, in the manner that we have been properly and safely operating?

We totally support the restoration of unlimited access to the Web site.

If this is deemed not feasible, in order to safely perform services for our customers, we would require access to the Web site, making use of a password and user name.

Any assistance in this matter would allow us to perform our work in a safe manner, for our field service personnel, as well as for our customers.

Thank You,

Jim Miller, R.S.O.
Sabia, Inc.
7060 Convoy Court
San Diego, CA 92111
California License No. 6663-37

Get your FREE download of MSN Explorer at <http://explorer.msn.com/init.asp>

Y-7