



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

August 12, 2004

Roy P. Zimmerman
Director
Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Two White Flint North
11545 Rockville Pike
Rockville, Maryland 20852-2738

Dear Mr. Zimmerman:

This letter is in reference to recent discussions between the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) concerning the development of joint Nuclear Materials Management and Safeguards System (NMMSS) reporting requirements.

Historically, the DOE and the NRC have maintained separate NMMSS reporting requirements; those being the DOE Order 474.1-2A and the NRC NUREG/BR-0006 and NUREG/BR-0007. Increasingly, NRC and Agreement State licensees and DOE sites are involved in transactions involving both DOE-owned and non-DOE-owned nuclear material. Facilities in this category must refer to two separate, albeit similar reporting requirements. This is a challenging and sometimes difficult situation placing an undue burden on those responsible for nuclear materials reporting.

Our offices have had several discussions over the last month concerning a collaborative effort to issue a single NMMSS reporting requirement that both DOE sites and industry would follow. We propose to establish a working group to effect this change. The working group will be co-chaired by Mr. Brian Horn, NRC, and Mr. Peter Dessauls, DOE, and include representatives from both private industry and the DOE sites.

With your concurrence, we will host the first meeting of the working group within 30 working days. We look forward to continuing our cooperative relationship with the NRC in this development of joint NMMSS reporting requirements effort.



If you have any questions, or would like to discuss this further, please contact Peter Dessauls on (301) 903-4525.

Sincerely,

Marshall O. Combs

Marshall O. Combs
Director, Office of Security
Office of Security and Safety
Performance Assurance

cc:

David Crawford, DOE
Peter Dessauls, DOE
John Shultz, DOE
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