RAS 9560

March 9, 2005

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Before the Commission

March 15, 2005 (3:35pm)

OFFICE OF SECRETARY RULEMAKINGS AND

DOCKETED

USNRC

In the Matter of	
PRIVATE FUEL STORAGE L.L.C.	
(Private Fuel Storage Facility)	

ADJUDICATIONS STAFF Docket No. 72-22-ISFSI

ASLBP No. 97-732-02-ISFSI

APPLICANT'S OPPOSITION TO STATE MOTION FOR ENLARGEMENT OF TIME TO FILE PETITION FOR REVIEW OF AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT CONSEQUENCES PARTIAL INITIAL DECISION

On March 7, 2005, the State of Utah ("State") filed with the Commission a motion for enlargement of time to file a petition for review¹ of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board's ("Board") Partial Initial Decision on potential aircraft crash consequences at the Private Fuel Storage Facility.² The State requests an enlargement of time until 15 days after the Board rules on the motion for reconsideration of the Final PID³ that the State filed with the Board simultaneously with its motion for enlargement of time. Motion at 1. Applicant Private Fuel Storage, L.L.C. opposes the State's motion.

The State should be granted no more time to file a petition for review. At the outset, the Applicant offered not to oppose a State request for a one-week enlargement of time, but the State declined the Applicant's offer. In any event, the State's motion for reconsideration with the Board raises no instances of overlooked or misapprehended law or evidence. Rather, the State simply repeats arguments it made before the Board or, in one case, presents an entirely new argument that is wholly unsupported by the evidentiary record. Thus, contrary to the State's claim, neither the Commission nor the parties would obtain any benefit from delaying the receipt of the

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¹ State of Utah's Motion for Enlargement of Time to File a Petition for Review of the Final Partial Initial Decision Regarding F-16 Aircraft Accident Consequences (Mar. 7, 2005) ("Motion").

² Final Partial Initial Decision – Safeguards Version (Regarding F-16 Aircraft Accident Consequences) (Feb. 24, 2005) ("Final PID").

³ State of Utah's Motion for Reconsideration of Final Partial Initial Decision Regarding F-16 Aircraft Accident Consequences (Mar. 7, 2005).

State's petition for review until after the Board rules on the reconsideration motion. While the State cites Commonwealth Edison Co. (Byron Nuclear Power Station, Units 1 and 2), ALAB-659, 14 NRC 983 (1981) to support its request, in that case the Appeal Board delayed briefing of the exceptions to the Licensing Board's decision that the appellant had already filed, not the initial filing of exceptions. See id. at 985. Here, by contrast, the State has not yet filed a petition for review with the Commission. Furthermore, there the Appeal Board noted that it was likely. upon considering the motion for reconsideration, that the Licensing Board would elaborate upon or "refine in some significant respect" its decision below. Here, again by contrast, the State's reconsideration motion merely reiterates several stale arguments and inappropriately raises one for the first time that is yet wholly unsupported by the record. The State also cites Consumers Power Co. (Midland Plant, Units 1 and 2), ALAB-235, 8 AEC 645 (1974). However, in that case the appellant's motion for reconsideration "brought to the Licensing Board's attention for the first time the fact that the applicant [was] suing [the plant architect/engineer] on allegations of deficient performance in constructing another nuclear facility." Id. at 648. Here, the State's reconsideration motion raises no issue of such weight. The State relies on no other authority for obtaining an enlargement of time to file its petition for review. Thus, there is no reason for the Commission to delay the receipt of the State's petition and hence the State's motion for enlargement should be denied.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the Applicant's Opposition to State Motion for Enlargement of Time to File Petition for Review of Aircraft Accident Consequences Partial Initial Decision were served on the persons listed below (unless otherwise noted) by e-mail with conforming copies by U.S. Mail, first class, postage prepaid, this 9th day of March, 2005.

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Office of the Secretary U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555-0001 Attention: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff e-mail: <u>hearingdocket@nrc.gov</u> (Original and two copies)

 * Adjudicatory File Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

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