From: Timothy Johnson
To: PHILLIP BARR
Date: 10/14/05 2:28PM
Subject: Re: Les enrichment plant emissions and school safety

Phillip Barr response re: radiation monitoring

Dear Mr Barr:

In your most recent communication, you requested that the LES radiation monitoring program be expanded for the proposed National Enrichment Facility (NEF) to include public schools downwind of the facility. Because the airborne effluent releases from the NEF are expected to be well below the NRC release limits, no additional radiation monitoring is necessary.

Discussion

In section 4.2.12 of the LES Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS), an analysis of the potential radiological impacts to a hypothetically maximally exposed individual located at the proposed NEF site boundary and to members of the public concluded that any impacts would be small, with doses significantly below limits established to protect the public. LES has included plant design features to minimize radiological effluent releases to ensure that impacts would be below regulatory limits. Also, section 4.2.13 addresses the consequences of accidents.

Section 6 of the FEIS addresses the LES environmental measurements and monitoring programs, including its radiological monitoring program for both liquid and gaseous effluents. Section 6.1 provides a comprehensive description of radiological monitoring through two programs: the Effluent Monitoring Program and the Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program. As for gaseous effluent monitoring, all potentially radioactive effluents from the proposed NEF would be discharged through monitored pathways. In addition, environmental monitoring is designed, among other things, to assess the magnitude of potential radiological impacts on members of the public and the environment and to demonstrate compliance with applicable radiation protection standards. Section 6.1 also addresses reporting procedures to meet NRC regulatory requirements.

The NRC staff determined that the currently proposed monitoring program meets applicable regulatory requirements to adequately protect public health and safety and the environment.

>>> "PHILLIP BARR" <pharb2@msn.com> 09/22/05 10:01 AM >>>
As I understand it, there is no provision for radiation monitors in public schools downwind of the proposed Les enrichment plant in Lea County, NM.
Since the emergency plan for the LES plant is being kept a secret by the NRC and the DOE, seems like radiation monitors for the schools is a reasonable request. It would provide some extra safety for the schoolchildren and make a great science project for the kids. Less worry for the parents too.
It would also provide independent monitoring of the plant.

If the plant is so safe, what's the problem with providing the monitors?
Could it be the Les emissions will be higher than their license allows?

I request the NRC provide radiation monitors and training to the downwind schools and for school personnel to operate them. If the NRC doesn't want to honor their mandate for nuclear safety to the public, then:

I request the DOE provide radiation monitors and training to the downwind schools and for school personnel to operate them.

On the state level: I request Governor Richardson, Ned Farquhar , Tannis Fox, New Mexico Environmental Department, or the Democratic Party of New Mexico find funding for radiation monitors and training to the downwind schools and for school personnel to operate them.

I also request that Carroll Leavell, and the Republican party of New Mexico find funding for radiation monitors and training to the downwind schools and for school personnel to operate them.

If this plant goes in, and causes any problems, whether emissions, waste, or water table contamination, this letter will help keep the "buck-passing down" and the responsibility and liability where it belongs:

Especially on both political parties and the State of New Mexico.
Imagine that.

Phillip Barr
Lea county.

Mail Envelope Properties (434FF8C7.6D9 : 10 : 412)

Subject: Re: Les enrichment plant emissions and school safety
Creation Date: 10/14/05 2:28PM
From: Timothy Johnson

Created By: TCJ@nrc.gov

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MESSAGE	5575	10/14/05 02:28PM

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Priority:	Standard
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