



U.S. Department
of Transportation

Maritime
Administration

400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

January 27, 2006
Advance via Email

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Alexander Adams
Mail Stop O12-G13
Washington, DC 20555-0001

**Subject: License NS-1, Docket No. 50-238; Advance Notice of N.S.
SAVANNAH Drydocking**

Dear Mr. Adams:

This letter is advance notice of the Maritime Administration's (MARAD) intent to drydock the Nuclear Ship SAVANNAH for routine hull maintenance, and topside repairs, modifications and preservation. These activities will be undertaken in accordance with the provisions of the current Technical Specification and license amendment 12.

MARAD has appointed Keystone Shipping Services, Inc., of Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania as General Agent to solicit for and administer the drydocking and topside repair contract. Keystone performed similar work on the Army Corps of Engineers nuclear power barge STURGIS in 1999. Keystone is concurrently performing the same work for the STURGIS this year as well. The Keystone general agency assignment and primary custodial responsibility for the SAVANNAH remains with MARAD's South Atlantic Region (SAR), which has administered the ship since its arrival at the James River Reserve Fleet in 1994.

MARAD and Keystone plan to solicit commercial shipyards in Tampa, Florida, Charleston, South Carolina, and the Hampton Roads port complex (includes Portsmouth, Norfolk and Newport News), Virginia. Revised Port Operating Plans for these three regions have been prepared, and will be submitted for your review under separate cover. MARAD has built a 30-day window into the contract milestones to allow for the 30-day written notice of ship movement

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required under paragraph 3.3.2 of the Technical Specification. Our target timeframe to put the ship on drydock is early May, for an anticipated 6 week availability. However, commercial drydock bookings have been very high this year because of the disruption caused to Gulf Coast facilities by last year's hurricanes. This may affect the SAVANNAH schedule; I will continue to keep you apprised as it develops.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or comments regarding this activity.

Sincerely,



Erhard W. Koehler
Senior Technical Advisor, N.S. SAVANNAH

E. Koehler\ek\01-27-2006

cc: MAR-600, 610 (rf, wc), 610.1, 610.2, 610.3, 610.4, 611, 612, 613,
614
MRG-7100, 7600 (fh), 7700
General Health Physics (J. Davis)
U.S. Army Humphreys Engineer Center (D. Breeden)
Keystone Shipping Services (L. Cavaliere, L. Flink)