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May 9, 2006
E&L-026-06

E. William Brach, Director
Spent Fuel Project Office
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, NMSS
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Mr. Brach:

Subject: Feedback on the Spent Fuel Project Office Licensing Process

Duratek previously provided feedback on the effectiveness and efficiency of the Part 71 licensing process. I write to you today to provide additional feedback to the Commission's efforts in this area.

On behalf of Duratek, I would like to express my appreciation for the efforts of your staff, and in particular to Ms. Jill Caverly, in processing our recent request for approval to transport the Lacrosse Reactor Pressure Vessel in a specially designed packaging, under the recently issued provision of 10 CFR 71.41(d). Following discussions between Duratek and your staff, we submitted our application on 16 December 2005 requesting approval by mid April 2006 to allow time for fabrication and onsite packaging without missing our fixed shipping date. Through the efforts of Ms. Caverly and your technical review staff, the application was reviewed, RAI issued, with Duratek's response reviewed and accepted and authorization issued by 27 April 2006.

To our knowledge, this was the first approval under the new regulation and was accomplished within a schedule that would have been ambitious without the additional burden of implementing a new regulation. The exceptional efforts of your staff allow maintaining timely support of our customer's needs. Again, I want to thank the Commission for the support provided in resolving a challenging situation.

Sincerely,

Patrick L. Paquin
General Manager - Engineering & Licensing

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