

August 1, 2007

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE PRE-LICENSE APPLICATION PRESIDING OFFICER BOARD

In the Matter of	)	Docket No. PAPO-00
	)	
U.S. Department of Energy	)	ASLBP No. 04-829-01-PAPO
	)	
(High Level Waste Repository: Pre-Application Matters)	)	

**STATE OF NEVADA COMMENTS ON PROPOSED  
THIRD CASE MANAGEMENT ORDER**

By Order dated July 10, 2007, the Pre-License Application Presiding Officer (PAPO) Board issued its Proposed Third Case Management Order in draft form, and requested comments by August 1, 2007. The State of Nevada has only two comments, both regarding certain Definitions in Part I, and otherwise supports the draft Order.

Nevada Comment 1 (Part I, Section D of Proposed Third Case Management Order)

Part I, Section D of the Proposed Third Case Management Order defines "Naval Nuclear Propulsion Information" or "NNPI" for purposes of the Order. The PAPO's specific reference to 10 U.S.C. §130 here is helpful, and comports with Nevada's understanding of the sole statutory basis for the privilege from disclosure here asserted. However, the limiting language from NAVSEAINST C5511.32B, defining NNPI, and some limiting language from 10 U.S.C. §130, should also be used in the definition, so that the actual scope of the privilege from disclosure is more apparent to the reader. Accordingly, Nevada proposes that the definition of NNPI be modified to read as follows:

"Naval Nuclear Propulsion Information" or "NNPI" for purposes of this Third Case Management Order refers to technical data concerning the design, arrangement, development, manufacture, testing, operation, administration, training, maintenance and repair of the propulsion plants of Naval nuclear powered ships and prototypes,

including the associated shipboard and shore-based support facilities, in the possession of or under the control of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program within the Department of Defense, but only to the extent Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) disclosure obligations do not apply to such data because, under FOIA Exemption 3, the data is specifically exempted from disclosure by 10 U.S.C. §130.

The first part of this definition (the term "technical data") comes directly from 10 U.S.C. §130; the second part of the definition (the language "concerning . . . shore based support facilities") is lifted directly from the definition of NNPI in NAVSEAINST C5511.32B; the third part (the language "in the possession of . . . Department of Defense") is based on 10 U.S.C. §130, which refers only to technical data "in the possession of, or under the control of, the Department of Defense;" and the fourth part (the language "but only to the extent . . . by 10 U.S.C. §130") uses language from the PAPO's proposed definition, which is based on 10 U.S.C. §130 and FOIA. The NAVSEAINST C5511.32B language is also in DOE's, NRC Staff's and Nevada's December 19, 2005 Joint Proposed Third Case Management Order.

Nevada Comment 2 (Part I, Section E of the Proposed Third Case Management Order)


Part I, Section E of the Proposed Third Case Management Order defines "Official Use Only Information" or "OUO." Simply designating information as OUO cannot serve as any sufficient basis for a non-disclosure privilege because OUO is not recognized as a basis for non-disclosure in any statute. Thus, the PAPO properly confined the OUO privilege to information exempt from disclosure under FOIA Exemptions 2 and 3. However, Nevada believes that the definition and corresponding privilege should be further narrowed so as to limit it to the kinds of information DOE and NRC designate as OUO. Specifically, OUO should be limited to two kinds of information. The first is information protected under the so-called "high-2" FOIA Exemption, which is information that is "predominantly internal" and for which disclosure "significantly risks circumvention of agency regulations or statutes." *Crooker v. ATF*, 670 F.2d 1051 (D.C. Cir. 1981). The second is export-controlled information, protected from disclosure

under various export control statutes such as section 57b of the Atomic Energy Act (and 10 C.F.R. Part 810). Accordingly, Nevada proposes a more specific definition as follows:

"Official Use Only information" or "OUO information" for purposes of this Third Case Management Order refers to two types of DOE or NRC information that is exempt from disclosure under FOIA. Specifically, OUO information is, first, NRC or DOE information that is exempt from disclosure under FOIA Exemption "high-2" because it is predominantly internal to the agency and its disclosure would risk circumvention of applicable law or render the documents operationally useless. This includes FOIA exempted critical infrastructure information, vulnerability assessments, inspection guidelines, classification guidelines, and evaluations of critical nuclear systems, facilities, stockpiles, and similar assets. Second, OUO information is information that is exempt from disclosure under FOIA Exemption 3 because its unrestricted export from the United States could assist in the production of special nuclear materials or nuclear weapons, or otherwise assist potential adversaries of the United States. This includes information protected from disclosure under section 57b. of the Atomic Energy Act. As used in this Third Case Management Order, OUO information does not include Safeguards Information, NNPI, or Unclassified Controlled Nuclear Information.

This definition is similar to the definition proposed in DOE's, NRC Staff's and Nevada's December 19, 2005 Joint Proposed Third Case Management Order, with one exception. The second category (FOIA Exemption 3) is limited to export controlled information, while the December 19, 2005 proposal might be read to suggest that the OUO Exemption 3 category might include other statutorily exempted information.

Respectfully submitted,



Charles J. Fitzpatrick  
Joseph R. Egan  
Martin G. Malsch  
EGAN, FITZPATRICK & MALSCH, PLLC  
1777 N.E. Loop 410, Suite 600  
San Antonio, TX 78217  
210.820.2667 Telephone  
210.820.2668 Facsimile  
[cfitzpatrick@nuclearlawyer.com](mailto:cfitzpatrick@nuclearlawyer.com)

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that the foregoing State of Nevada's Comments on the Proposed Third Case Management Order has been served upon the following persons either by Electronic Information Exchange or electronic mail (denoted by an asterisk (\*)).

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel  
Mail Stop - T-3 F23  
Washington, DC 20555-0001  
Thomas S. Moore, Chair  
Administrative Judge  
Email: [PAPO@nrc.gov](mailto:PAPO@nrc.gov)  
Alex S. Karlin  
Administrative Judge  
Email: [PAPO@nrc.gov](mailto:PAPO@nrc.gov)  
Alan S. Rosenthal  
Administrative Judge  
Email: [PAPO@nrc.gov & rsnthl@comcast.net](mailto:PAPO@nrc.gov & rsnthl@comcast.net)  
G. Paul Bollwerk, III  
Administrative Judge  
Email: [PAPO@nrc.gov](mailto:PAPO@nrc.gov)  
Anthony C. Eitreim, Esq.  
Chief Counsel  
Email: [PAPO@nrc.gov](mailto:PAPO@nrc.gov)  
James M. Cutchin  
Email: [PAPO@nrc.gov](mailto:PAPO@nrc.gov)  
Jered Lindsay  
Email: [PAPO@nrc.gov](mailto:PAPO@nrc.gov)  
Marcia Carpentier\*  
Email: [PAPO@nrc.gov](mailto:PAPO@nrc.gov)  
Margaret Parish  
Email: [PAPO@nrc.gov](mailto:PAPO@nrc.gov)  
Debra Wolf  
Email: [PAPO@nrc.gov](mailto:PAPO@nrc.gov)  
Bradley S. Baxter\*  
Email: [bxh@nrc.gov](mailto:bxh@nrc.gov)  
Daniel J. Graser  
LSN Administrator  
Email: [djg2@nrc.gov](mailto:djg2@nrc.gov)  
ASLBP HLW Adjudication  
Email: [ASLBP\\_HLW\\_Adjudication@nrc.gov](mailto:ASLBP_HLW_Adjudication@nrc.gov)

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of the Secretary of the Commission  
Mail Stop - O-16 C1  
Washington, DC 20555-0001  
Hearing Docket  
Email: [hearingdocket@nrc.gov](mailto:hearingdocket@nrc.gov)  
Andrew L. Bates  
Email: [alb@nrc.gov](mailto:alb@nrc.gov)  
Adria T. Byrdsong  
Email: [atb1@nrc.gov](mailto:atb1@nrc.gov)  
Emile L. Julian, Esq.  
Email: [elj@nrc.gov](mailto:elj@nrc.gov)  
Evangeline S. Ngbea  
Email: [esn@nrc.gov](mailto:esn@nrc.gov)  
Rebecca L. Giitter  
Email: [rll@nrc.gov](mailto:rll@nrc.gov)

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of Congressional Affairs  
Mail Stop O-17A3

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of Public Affairs  
Mail Stop O-2A13  
David McIntyre  
Email: [dtm@nrc.gov](mailto:dtm@nrc.gov)

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of the General Counsel  
Mail Stop - O-15 D21  
Washington, DC 20555-0001  
Karen D. Cyr, Esq.\*  
General Counsel  
Email: [kdc@nrc.gov](mailto:kdc@nrc.gov)  
Gwendolyn D. Hawkins  
Email: [gxh2@nrc.gov](mailto:gxh2@nrc.gov)  
Janice E. Moore, Esq.  
Email: [jem@nrc.gov](mailto:jem@nrc.gov)

Trip Rothschild, Esq.\*

Email: [tbr@nrc.gov](mailto:tbr@nrc.gov)

Mitzi A. Young, Esq.

Email: [may@nrc.gov](mailto:may@nrc.gov)

Marian L. Zobler, Esq.

Email: [mlz@nrc.gov](mailto:mlz@nrc.gov)

Andrea L. Silvia, Esq.

Email: [alc1@nrc.gov](mailto:alc1@nrc.gov)

David Roth, Esq.

Email: [der@nrc.gov](mailto:der@nrc.gov)

OGCMailCenter

Email: [OGCMailCenter@nrc.gov](mailto:OGCMailCenter@nrc.gov)

Hunton & Williams LLP

Counsel for the U.S. Department of Energy

Riverfront Plaza, East Tower

951 East Byrd Street

Richmond, VA 23219

W. Jeffery Edwards, Esq.

Email: [jedwards@hunton.com](mailto:jedwards@hunton.com)

Kelly L. Faglioni, Esq.

Email: [kfaglioni@hunton.com](mailto:kfaglioni@hunton.com)

Melissa Grier

Email: [mgrrier@hunton.com](mailto:mgrrier@hunton.com)

Donald P. Irwin, Esq.

Email: [dirwin@hunton.com](mailto:dirwin@hunton.com)

Stephanie Meharg

Email: [smeharg@hunton.com](mailto:smeharg@hunton.com)

Edward P. Noonan, Esq.

Email: [enoonan@hunton.com](mailto:enoonan@hunton.com)

Audrey B. Rusteau

Email: [arusteau@hunton.com](mailto:arusteau@hunton.com)

Michael R. Shebelskie, Esq.

Email: [mshbelskie@hunton.com](mailto:mshbelskie@hunton.com)

Pat Slayton

Email: [pslayton@hunton.com](mailto:pslayton@hunton.com)

Belinda A. Wright

Email: [bwright@hunton.com](mailto:bwright@hunton.com)

U.S. Department Of Energy

Office of General Counsel

1551 Hillshire Drive

Las Vegas, NV 89134-6321

George W. Hellstrom

Email: [george.hellstrom@ymp.gov](mailto:george.hellstrom@ymp.gov)

U.S. Department of Energy

Office of General Counsel

1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.

Washington, DC 20585

Martha S. Crosland, Esq.

Email: [martha.crosland@hq.doe.gov](mailto:martha.crosland@hq.doe.gov)

Angela M. Kordyak, Esq.

Email: [angela.kordyak@hq.doe.gov](mailto:angela.kordyak@hq.doe.gov)

Mary B. Neumayr, Esq.\*

Email: [mary.neumayr@hq.doe.gov](mailto:mary.neumayr@hq.doe.gov)

Carter Ledyard & Milburn, LLP

Counsel for Lincoln County

1401 Eye Street, N.W., Suite 300

Washington, DC 20005

Barry S. Neuman, Esq.

Email: [neuman@clm.com](mailto:neuman@clm.com)

U.S. Department of Energy

1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.

Washington, DC 20585

Eric Knox, Associate Director, Systems

Operations and External Relations, OCRWM\*

Email: [eric.knox@hq.doe.gov](mailto:eric.knox@hq.doe.gov)

Dong Kim, LSN Project Manager, OCRWM\*

Email: [dong.kim@rw.doe.gov](mailto:dong.kim@rw.doe.gov)

Churchill, Esmeralda, Eureka, Mineral  
and Lander Counties

1705 Wildcat Lane

Ogden, UT 84403

Loreen Pitchford, LSN Coordinator

for Lander County

Email: [lpitchford@comcast.net](mailto:lpitchford@comcast.net)

U.S. Department of Energy

Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Mgmt

Office of Repository Development

1551 Hillshire Drive

Las Vegas, NV 89134-6321

Timothy C. Gunter

Email: [timothy\\_gunter@ymp.gov](mailto:timothy_gunter@ymp.gov)

City of Las Vegas

400 Stewart Ave.

Las Vegas, NV 89101

Margaret Plaster, Management Analyst

Email: [mplaster@LasVegasNevada.gov](mailto:mplaster@LasVegasNevada.gov)

Clark County (NV) Nuclear Waste Division

500 S. Grand Central Parkway

Las Vegas, NV 89155

Irene Navis\*

Email: [iln@co.clark.nv.us](mailto:iln@co.clark.nv.us)

Engelbrecht von Tiesenhausen

Email: [evt@co.clark.nv.us](mailto:evt@co.clark.nv.us)

Nuclear Waste Project Office  
1761 East College Parkway, Suite 118  
Carson City, NV 89706  
Robert Loux  
Email: [bloux@nuc.state.nv.us](mailto:bloux@nuc.state.nv.us)  
Steve Frishman, Tech. Policy Coordinator  
Email: [steve.frishman@gmail.com](mailto:steve.frishman@gmail.com)

Eureka County and Lander County, Nevada  
Harmon, Curran, Speilberg & Eisenberg, LLP  
1726 M. Street N.W., Suite 600  
Washington, DC 20036  
Diane Curran, Esq.  
Email: [dcurran@harmoncurran.com](mailto:dcurran@harmoncurran.com)

Public Citizen  
215 Pennsylvania Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20003  
Michele Boyd, Legislative Director  
Critical Mass Energy and Environment  
Email: [mboyd@citizen.org](mailto:mboyd@citizen.org)

Nevada Nuclear Waste Task Force  
P.O. Box 26177  
Las Vegas, NV 89126  
Judy Treichel, Executive Director  
Email: [judyntwf@aol.com](mailto:judyntwf@aol.com)

Talisman International, LLC  
1000 Potomac St., NW  
Suite 300  
Washington, D.C. 20007  
Patricia Larimore  
Email: [plarimore@talisman-intl.com](mailto:plarimore@talisman-intl.com)

Nuclear Energy Institute  
1776 I Street, NW, Suite 400  
Washington, DC 20006-3708  
Michael A. Bauser, Esq.  
Associate General Counsel  
Email: [mab@nei.org](mailto:mab@nei.org)  
Anne W. Cottingham, Esq.  
Email: [awc@nei.org](mailto:awc@nei.org)  
Ellen C. Ginsberg, Esq.  
Email: [ecg@nei.org](mailto:ecg@nei.org)  
Rod McCullum\*  
Email: [rxm@nei.org](mailto:rxm@nei.org)  
Steven P. Kraft\*  
Email: [spk@nei.org](mailto:spk@nei.org)

White Pine County  
City of Caliente  
Lincoln County  
P.O. Box 126  
Caliente, NV 89008  
Jason Pitts  
Email: [jayson@idtservices.com](mailto:jayson@idtservices.com)

Nuclear Information and Resource Service  
6930 Carroll Avenue, Suite 340  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Kevin Kamps  
Email: [kevin@nirs.org](mailto:kevin@nirs.org)

Yucca Mountain Project, Licensing Group,  
DOE/BSC  
Regulatory Programs  
1180 North Town Center Drive  
Las Vegas, NV 89144  
Jeffrey Kriner  
Email: [jeffrey.kriner@ymp.gov](mailto:jeffrey.kriner@ymp.gov)

Abigail Johnson\*  
612 West Telegraph Street  
Carson City, NV 89703  
Email: [abbyj@gbis.com](mailto:abbyj@gbis.com)

National Congress of American Indians  
1301 Connecticut Ave. NW - Second floor  
Washington, DC 20036  
Robert I. Holden, Director\*  
Nuclear Waste Program  
Email: [robert\\_holden@ncai.org](mailto:robert_holden@ncai.org)

Ross, Dixon & Bell  
2001 K Street N.W.  
Washington D.C. 20006-1040  
William H. Briggs\*  
Email: [wbriggs@rdblaw.com](mailto:wbriggs@rdblaw.com)  
Merril Hirsh, Esq.\*  
Email: [mhirsh@rdblaw.com](mailto:mhirsh@rdblaw.com)

Churchill County (NV)  
155 North Taylor Street, Suite 182  
Fallon, NV 89406  
Alan Kall\*  
Email: [comptroller@churchillcounty.org](mailto:comptroller@churchillcounty.org)

Inyo County Water Department  
Yucca Mtn Nuclear Waste  
Repository Assessment Office  
163 May St.  
Bishop, CA 93514  
Matt Gaffney, Project Associate\*  
Email: [mgaffney@inyoyucca.org](mailto:mgaffney@inyoyucca.org)

Environmental Protection Agency  
Ray Clark\*  
Email: [clark.ray@epa.gov](mailto:clark.ray@epa.gov)

Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board  
Joyce Dory\*  
Email: [dory@nwtrb.gov](mailto:dory@nwtrb.gov)

Intertech Services Corporation  
(for Lincoln County)  
P.O. Box 2008  
Carson City, NV 89702-2008  
Dr. Mike Baughman\*  
Email: [bigboff@aol.com](mailto:bigboff@aol.com)

Nye County (NV) Department of Natural  
Resources & Federal Facilities  
1210 E. Basin Road, Suite 6  
Pahrump, NV 89048  
David Swanson\*  
Email: [dswanson@nyecounty.net](mailto:dswanson@nyecounty.net)

Lincoln County (NV) Nuclear Oversight Prgm  
100 Depot Ave., Suite 15; P.O. Box 1068  
Caliente, NV 89008-1068  
Lea Rasura-Alfano, Coordinator\*  
Email: [jcciac@co.lincoln.nv.us](mailto:jcciac@co.lincoln.nv.us)

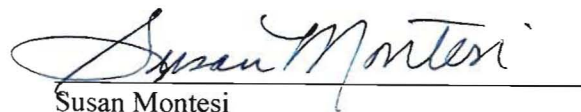
Nye County (NV) Regulatory/Licensing Adv.  
18160 Cottonwood Rd. #265  
Sunriver, OR 97707  
Malachy Murphy\*  
Email: [mrmurphy@cmc.net](mailto:mrmurphy@cmc.net)

Mineral County (NV) Board of County  
Commissioners  
P.O. Box 1600  
Hawthorne, NV 89415  
Linda Mathias, Administrator\*  
Office of Nuclear Projects  
Email: [yuccainfo@mineralcountynv.org](mailto:yuccainfo@mineralcountynv.org)

State of Nevada (NV)  
100 N. Carson Street  
Carson City, NV 89710  
Marta Adams\*  
Email: [maadams@ag.state.nv.us](mailto:maadams@ag.state.nv.us)

White Pine County (NV) Nuclear  
Waste Project Office  
959 Campton Street  
Ely, NV 89301  
Mike Simon, Director\*  
(Heidi Williams, Adm. Assist.\*)  
Email: [wpnucwst1@mwpower.net](mailto:wpnucwst1@mwpower.net)

Fredericks & Peebles, L.L.P.  
1001 Second Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
916-441-2700  
FAX 916-441-2067  
Darcie L. Houck  
Email: [dhouck@ndnlaw.com](mailto:dhouck@ndnlaw.com)  
John M. Peebles  
Email: [jpeebles@ndnlaw.com](mailto:jpeebles@ndnlaw.com)

  
Susan Montesi