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OFFICE OF SECRETARY
RULEMAKINGS AND
ADJUDICATIONS STAFF

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Director
Office of Enforcement
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington D.C. 20555-0001

I, A. Christine Tipton, am asking the NRC for a hearing concerning a change in the Nuclear Fuel Services license (NFS) in Erwin, TN.

The subject first came to my attention on August 7 in our local newspaper, The Erwin Record. I did not fully understand, at that time, the seriousness of what had happened at NFS, nor the confirmatory order, nor the process by which to address my concerns.

Since that time, I have read the NRC's discussion of May 30, 2007 with NFS concerning their safety failures and the NRC's acceptance of a self-assessment to be done by NFS as part of their developing

a "safety culture."

There is no way that a self-assessment by NFS gives me renewed confidence in a facility that has over the years practiced repeated non-compliance and has now been a part of a secret, secrecy policy concerning incidents that could effect public health and safety.

I am asking for an opportunity to address my concerns at a hearing since I live in the town of Erwin, one mile from the NFS site. Accidents with radioactive elements, human failures at a nuclear facility and NRC violations definitely affect myself, my family, my property, my community and my well-being and peace of mind.

The very notion that accidents would be covered up is unacceptable. We've had cover ups going on here for years! Just who's watching out for the public?

Myself and a large number of residents have lost trust with NFS to be honest about what might harm us from their operations. If we do not know the dangers, we cannot protect ourselves! NFS operates on an honor system about hazardous pollutants. What honor system?!

Comments from the new General Manager of NFS, Tim Lindstrom, are certainly a matter of concern. In his rebuttal of news coverage from the Johnson City Press, he likened the uranium incident of March 6, 2006 as "simply having to clean up the floor!"

If the only safety NFS has is when someone sees a uranium solution running under the door, then I would say that "simply" does not even begin to cover how Lindstrom will approach safety. Since the incident has become national and international news, apparently, nobody else

thinks a uranium spill is simple!

NFS needs to adhere to all NRC regulations every minute. Just who in reality is enforcing this?

I am left with a feeling of insecurity and a threatening lack of information and certainly no guarantees that anything will change.

So, again, I am asking for a hearing with the NRC to address my concerns with NFS.

Respectfully,

A. Christine Tipton

Please respond by mail.