



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

June 22, 2007

MEMORANDUM TO:

Gary S. Janosko, Deputy Director
Fuel Facilities Licensing Directorate
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety
and Safeguards
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

THRU:

Peter Habighorst, Chief *MAJ*
Fuel Manufacturing Branch
Fuel Facilities Licensing Directorate
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety
and Safeguards
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

FROM:

Kevin Ramsey, Project Manager *Kevin M Ramsey*
Fuel Manufacturing Branch
Fuel Facilities Licensing Directorate
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety
and Safeguards
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

SUBJECT:

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY - CLOSED MEETING
SUMMARY, JUNE 6, 2007, RE: POLICY FOR WITHHOLDING
INFORMATION

On June 6, 2007, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff met with staff from the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Naval Reactors (DOE/NR) at NRC Headquarters in Rockville, Maryland. A list of attendees is provided in Enclosure 1 and the Meeting Agenda is provided in Enclosure 2. The purpose of the closed meeting was to discuss how the policy for handling sensitive, unclassified information may be changed in order to provide additional visibility of work at licensed sites without compromising naval nuclear technology or site security information.

After introductory remarks, the NRC reviewed the background of its policy for withholding sensitive, unclassified information and a recent event that raised concerns about the amount of information being withheld from the public. It was agreed that the NRC would draft options for improving its policy and guidance, and provide them to DOE/NR for review. DOE/NR stated that it was concerned about information describing the physical layout of the facilities, and information that could be used to derive the processes used. It was noted that policy should consider how requests under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) are handled and whether

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responses to FOIA requests are also made public. DOE/NR stated that it is reviewing training plans from the licensees performing government work to determine if they are consistent with NRC policy.

With respect to a request for information from investigators of the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, NRC stated that it has assembled most of the documents and expects to transmit them by the end of the week. DOE/NR is reviewing a classified letter requested by the investigators and has informed the investigators that it may be best to send a representative, with the proper clearance, to its office to review the letter.

Docket Nos.: 70-143
70-27

License Nos.: SNM-124
SNM-42

Enclosures:

1. Attendee List
2. Meeting Agenda



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
HEADQUARTERS

MEETING ATTENDANCE FORM

Subject: Meeting with DOE Naval Reactors re: Policy for Withholding Information

Date: 6/6/2007 Location: NRC Headquarters. Room T-8E8

NAME	OFFICE	PHONE NUMBER
Kevin Ramsey	NRC/NMSS/FCSS	301-415-7887
Billy Gleaves	NRC/NMSS/FCSS	301-415-5848
Mike Lamastra	NRC/NMSS/FCSS	301-415-8139
Pete Habighorst	NRC/NMSS/FCSS	301-415-6947
Gary Janosko	NRC/NMSS/FCSS	301-415-7322
Lynn Silvious	NRC/NSIR	301-415-2214
Amy Powell	NRC/OCA	301-415-1673
Troy Pruett	NRC/OCA	817-860-8173
Bern Stapleton	NRC/NSIR	301-415-2432
Trip Rothchild	NRC/OGC	301-415-1611
Nicola Sanchez	NRC/OGC	301-415-1613
Bob Caldwell	NRC/NSIR	301-415-1243
Adam Demella	DOE/NR	202-781-6145
Brent Barcus	DOE/NR	202-781-6330
Kevin Krogh	DOE/NR	202-781-6187

Enclosure 1

MEETING WITH DOE/NAVAL REACTORS ON JUNE 6, 2007

- Purpose:** To discuss: (1) how the policy for handling information regarding NFS/BWXT may be changed to provide additional visibility of work at the sites without compromising naval nuclear technology or site security information and (2) what additional actions need to be taken to resolve the questions/concerns expressed by House Investigators, on May 24, 2007.
- Outcome:** Improved understanding of the issues and consensus on the next steps for addressing them.
- Process:** Review background information on the policy for withholding information and recent direction for the NRC staff to release more information. Discuss options for revising the policy, and the roles and responsibilities of all parties moving forward.

Agenda

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| 1. Welcome and Introductions | NRC (Janosko) and DOE/NR (Krogh) |
| 2. Background Information | NRC (Ramsey) |
| 3. Options for Changing Policy | NRC (Lamastra) |
| 4. Status of Response to House Investigators | NRC/OCA and DOE/NR |
| 5. Next Steps | All |