

PRM-50-88
(72FR46569)



NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE

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November 6, 2007 (10:34am)

Ralph L. Andersen, CHP
DIRECTOR - RADIATION SAFETY &
LOW-LEVEL WASTE MANAGEMENT
NUCLEAR GENERATION DIVISION

November 5, 2007

OFFICE OF SECRETARY
RULEMAKINGS AND
ADJUDICATIONS STAFF

Ms. Annette L. Vietti-Cook
Secretary
Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Subject: PRM-50-88 Comments on Energy Solutions; Receipt of Petition for Rulemaking, *72 Federal Register 46569*, August 21, 2007

Project Number: 689

Dear Ms. Vietti-Cook:

This letter provides the comments of the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI)¹, on behalf of the nuclear energy industry, on the subject Federal Register notice that solicits public comments on a petition for rulemaking filed by Energy Solutions. The petition for rulemaking is intended to explicitly provide for the use of decommissioning funds to dispose of "major radioactive components" (MRCs) prior to cessation of licensee operations for decommissioning.

We support granting of the petition and initiation of proposed rulemaking. A rule consistent with the proposal contained in the petition will assist in providing flexibility to licensees in deciding on disposition options for MRCs removed from operation. We agree with the petitioner's assertion that such rulemaking can have the effect of avoiding unnecessary regulatory burdens, reducing overall costs to decommission nuclear power plant sites, and minimizing the radioactive source term and worker exposures associated with MRCs stored at nuclear power plant sites.

The petitioner's justification for the proposed rulemaking includes the comment that "leaving large contaminated components onsite can give rise to adverse environmental impacts if not properly managed." While this comment may be conceptually correct, in actual fact, nuclear power plant

¹ NEI is the organization responsible for establishing unified nuclear industry policy on matters affecting the nuclear energy industry, including the regulatory aspects of generic operational and technical issues. NEI's members include all utilities licensed to operate commercial nuclear power plants in the United States, nuclear plant designers, major architect/engineering firms, fuel fabrication facilities, materials licensees, and other organizations and individuals involved in the nuclear energy industry.

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SECY-02

Ms. Annette L. Vietti-Cook
November 5, 2007
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licensees take all measures necessary to assure the protection of public health and safety and the environment and will continue to do so.

If you have any questions regarding our comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at 202.739.8111; rla@nei.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ralph Andersen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R".

Ralph L. Andersen

c: NRC Document Control Desk

From: "ANDERSEN, Ralph" <rla@nei.org>
Date: Mon, Nov 5, 2007 4:57 PM
Subject: PRM-50-88 Comments on Energy Solutions; Receipt of Petition for Rulemaking, 72 Federal Register 46569, August 21, 2007

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Ms. Annette L. Vietti-Cook

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The petitioner's justification for the proposed rulemaking includes the comment that "leaving large contaminated components onsite can give rise to adverse environmental impacts if not properly managed." While this comment may be conceptually correct, in actual fact, nuclear power plant licensees take all measures necessary to assure the protection of public health and safety and the environment and will continue to do so.

If you have any questions regarding our comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at 202.739.8111; rla@nei.org.

Ralph L. Andersen, CHP

Director, Radiation Safety & Low-Level Waste Management

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nuclear. clean air energy.

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From: "ANDERSEN, Ralph" <rla@nei.org>

Created By: rla@nei.org

Recipients

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