



October 1, 2007

Document Control Desk  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555

Proj 760

**Re: Pre-Application Review of Toshiba 4S Reactor Design**

To Whom It May Concern:

The City of Nome has watched with interest as Galena, Alaska has pursued the possibility of obtaining a Toshiba 4S Nuclear Power Plant.

The need for clean alternative energy in Alaska is gigantic. The 2006 per kilowatt rates in Nome were \$0.3229 plus a \$5.00 base service charge. From 1996 to 2006, annual average wholesale and retail prices for heating oil has increased by 187% and 139% respectively, after adjusting for inflation (U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration, 2007). The cost of electricity in Nome has increased from \$0.1875 to the current rate over the past four years; a direct result of increasing diesel fuel costs.

With rural Alaska relying primarily on the escalating price of diesel, the sustainability of many communities is becoming a concern. Nuclear power is now getting a second look after many years.

We are encouraged that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission will be reviewing the Toshiba 4S reactor. There are several features of the 4S that are important for remote areas of Alaska, primarily the long life of reactor core, the small size and the passive safety.

We will be very interested in the final outcomes of the Reactor Design Review process. We would appreciate your efforts to keep us apprised of the licensing process for this project.

Sincerely,  
City of Nome

Denise Michels  
Mayor

Cc: Marvin Yoder, City of Galena  
John Handeland, NJUS

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*"There's no place like Nome"*