

Northwest Interstate Compact

On Low-Level Radioactive Waste Management

P.O. Box 47600 Olympia, Washington 98504-7600. (360) 407-7102. Mike Garner, Executive Director

March 3, 2008

Mr. Stephen Dembek, Branch Chief
Export Controls and International Organizations
Office of International Programs
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

RE: Application for NRC Import License (IW023)

Dear Mr. Dembek:

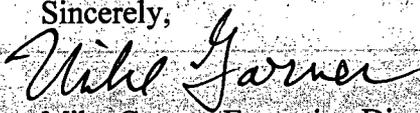
The import license application from EnergySolutions seeks authorization to import 20,000 tons of low-level radioactive waste from Italy. The request states that material which cannot be decontaminated or recycled will be processed at EnergySolutions facilities in Tennessee, and then shipped to their Clive, Utah facility for disposal. This is different than previous import license requests I have approved on behalf of the Northwest Interstate Compact.

On previous import license requests, I have indicated that all materials that cannot be decontaminated and recycled must be returned to the organization and country in which the low-level radioactive waste was generated. Since EnergySolutions is proposing to dispose of foreign low-level radioactive waste within the Northwest Interstate Compact, I need direction from our committee prior to responding to the application.

The Northwest Interstate Compact Committee is scheduled to meet on Thursday, May 8, 2008 in Boise, Idaho. The EnergySolutions import license application request will be a major item on the agenda. I request the Northwest Interstate Compact be allowed to defer its response until after its May meeting. This will allow the committee to provide me with guidance regarding how it wants to respond to the request. Following the meeting I will provide a response within five working days.

Should you have any questions please contact me at (360) 407-7102.

Sincerely,



Mike Garner, Executive Director
Northwest Interstate Compact

cc: Northwest Interstate Compact Committee