

NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE

7/31/08 73FR 44780

September 17, 2008

Mr. John Jankovich Team Leader Office of Federal and State Materials, and Environmental Management Programs U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Mail Stop T-8-E24 Washington, D.C. 20555

Subject: 73 Federal Register 44780, Dated July 31, 2008 Regarding the Security and Continued Use of Cesium-Chloride Sources and Notice of Public Meeting.

Project Number: 689

Dear Mr. Jankovich:

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the upcoming public meeting and provide comments on the complex issues involving the nationwide use of Cesium-137 Chloride sources.

On behalf of industry, the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) respectfully requests an extension of the comment period identified in the subject *Federal Register* notice (FRN) entitled, "Request for Comments on the Security and Continued Use of Cesium-137 Chloride Sources and Notice of Public Meeting" dated July 31, 2008.

Specifically, the FRN states that stakeholder comments on the Cesium-137 Chloride source issues raised therein should be submitted to NRC no later than September 30, 2008. This date coincides with the last day of the scheduled public meeting, which industry fully supports. We believe that industry, the public and other stakeholder comments on these complex matters would be greatly informed by the deliberations that will inevitably occur during the two day meeting which commences on September 29, 2008. Therefore, we request that the comment period be extended, at a minimum, 30 days so as to close no earlier than October 30, 2008.

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We appreciate your prompt attention to this request and would like to be informed of your decision. If you have comments or questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at <u>fmk@nei.org</u>; 202.739.8126.

Sincerely,

c:

Joy M. Kelag

Felix M. Killar, Jr.

Mr. Michael T. Lesar, ADM/DAS/RDEB, NRC Mr. Andrew N. Mauer, FSME/DMSSA/SSSB, NRC