

EagleRockCEm Resource

From: Darwin Mecham, CISSP [dlmecham@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2009 10:03 AM
To: EagleRockEIS Resource
Subject: Docket No. 70-7015

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the EIS and licensing for Areva's Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility.

Statement:

I am a resident of Idaho Falls. I am not affiliated with Areva in any way.

I've worked in the nuclear industry since 1980.

For the last year and a half I have been under contract doing plant design and buildout for a facility very similar in nature and siting to the Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility.

My perspective is not one that is anticipatory but rather one of having been associated and involved with a similar facility with similar concerns.

The NRC has a difficult and evolving role in licensing and assuring for the safety and security of an entirely new type of nuclear facility.

I would like to compliment the NRC on the job they've done and are doing in assuring compliance to licensing and safety requirements.

I believe the NRC has done an admirable job.

I think we can also measure Areva's desire for openness and compliance with safety and security issues by their response to the NRC and community concerns.

This openness is shown by the nature of the Areva online blog. I think this is a first of it's kind.
<http://us.arevablog.com/>

The selection of Enrichment Technologies to provide the gas centrifuge technology as the heart of the Areva enrichment process shows the Areva corporate concern for both extremely efficient and environmentally friendly technologies.

Many issues have been raised in the examination of the EIS that have direct effect on the licensing process.

The NRC now has the task of sorting good science from bad science.

Some sectors take great pains in making general allegations of negligence without doing a full vetting of their sources.

Areva has a well founded and viable US presence, with plans to hire 700 new employees in North America in 2009.

This speaks well to the long term commitment required after the plant reaches the decommissioning stage.

The gas centrifuge technology is CO2 neutral, producing no CO2 emissions in the production of fuel stock.

Areva has a stated commitment to non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and is building a site at the Savannah River Site to remove and reprocess weapons-grade material from the nuclear stockpile.

Additionally please consider the following impacts on the local area:

Highway 20 running from Idaho Falls to the proposed Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility is a 2 lane highway that currently services the Idaho National Lab facilities. This is already a congested highway, the addition of 1000 construction workers and associated construction traffic will pose a safety risk for all involved. Expansion of Highway 20 to a 4 lane split highway would be a welcome and safe solution.

Air service into Idaho Falls is limited and expensive. A one way flight from Idaho Falls to Salt Lake City costs around \$400.00.

Areva workers would find themselves in competition for seating on flights that are already filled to capacity by INL, DOE and other local business travelers.

One possible solution is for the City of Idaho Falls, Grow Idaho Falls, Areva, INL and other major employers to pursue a carrier such as Southwest Airlines to establish a new service to Las Vegas.

This would provide economical and convenient service with greater capacity.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

--

Darwin Mecham, CISSP

(208) 528-0746 - office

(208) 521-6123 - mobile

Federal Register Notice: 74FR20508
Comment Number: 24

Mail Envelope Properties (963870220906050702p12c1e4a5u4ddb3b2d73f83f58)

Subject: Docket No. 70-7015
Sent Date: 6/5/2009 10:02:37 AM
Received Date: 6/5/2009 10:02:39 AM
From: Darwin Mecham, CISSP

Created By: dlmecham@gmail.com

Recipients:
"EagleRockEIS Resource" <EagleRockEIS.Resource@nrc.gov>
Tracking Status: None

Post Office: mail.gmail.com

Files	Size	Date & Time
MESSAGE	3590	6/5/2009 10:02:39 AM

Options
Priority: Standard
Return Notification: No
Reply Requested: No
Sensitivity: Normal
Expiration Date:
Recipients Received: