

September 9, 2009

The Honorable Edward J. Markey
Chairman, Subcommittee on Energy
and Environment
Committee on Energy and Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) intends to publish a proposed rule in the Federal Register that would amend its regulations for licensing requirements for the independent storage of spent nuclear fuel, high-level radioactive waste, and reactor-related greater than Class C waste.” The proposed amendments would clarify the terms for approved dry spent fuel storage cask designs, also known as Certificates of Compliance (CoCs), and independent spent fuel storage installation licenses. The proposed action also would allow general licensees to implement changes authorized by an amended CoC to a cask loaded under the initial CoC or an earlier amended CoC (a “previously loaded cask”).

The proposed amendments would establish a term not to exceed 40 years as the initial and renewal terms for CoCs; the current regulation does not specify a term. The current regulation, however, limits a general license to 20 years after the date that a particular cask model was first used by a general licensee to store spent fuel; if the cask’s CoC is renewed, the general license expires 20 years after the cask CoC renewal date. The proposed amendments would also remove the 20-year limit and instead would link the general license term to that of the CoC. Thus, the general license, CoC, and site-specific license initial and renewal terms would be for durations not to exceed 40 years, thereby achieving regulatory consistency.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure:
Federal Register Notice

cc: Representative Fred Upton

September 9, 2009

The Honorable Thomas Carper
Chairman, Subcommittee on Clean Air
and Nuclear Safety
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) intends to publish a proposed rule in the Federal Register that would amend its regulations for licensing requirements for the independent storage of spent nuclear fuel, high-level radioactive waste, and reactor-related greater than Class C waste.” The proposed amendments would clarify the terms for approved dry spent fuel storage cask designs, also known as Certificates of Compliance (CoCs), and independent spent fuel storage installation licenses. The proposed action also would allow general licensees to implement changes authorized by an amended CoC to a cask loaded under the initial CoC or an earlier amended CoC (a “previously loaded cask”).

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Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure:
Federal Register Notice

cc: Senator David Vitter

September 9, 2009

The Honorable Barbara Boxer
Chairman, Committee on Environment
and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Madam Chairman:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) intends to publish a proposed rule in the Federal Register that would amend its regulations for licensing requirements for the independent storage of spent nuclear fuel, high-level radioactive waste, and reactor-related greater than Class C waste.” The proposed amendments would clarify the terms for approved dry spent fuel storage cask designs, also known as Certificates of Compliance (CoCs), and independent spent fuel storage installation licenses. The proposed action also would allow general licensees to implement changes authorized by an amended CoC to a cask loaded under the initial CoC or an earlier amended CoC (a “previously loaded cask”).

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Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure:
Federal Register Notice

cc: Senator James M. Inhofe

September 9, 2009

The Honorable Henry A. Waxman
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

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Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure:
Federal Register Notice

cc: Representative Joe Barton

September 9, 2009

The Honorable Edward J. Markey
Chairman, Subcommittee on Energy
and Environment
Committee on Energy and Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure:
Federal Register Notice
cc: Representative Fred Upton

Identical Letters sent to The Honorable Thomas Carper with cc to Senator David Vitter, The Honorable Barbara Boxer with cc to Senator James M. Inhofe, and The Honorable Henry A. Waxman with cc to Representative Joe Barton

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