Owen, Lucy

From: Maier, Bill
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2009 1:13 AM
To: Casto, Chuck; Collins, Elmo; Pham, Bo; Stuyvenberg, Andrew; Rikhoff, Jeffrey; Lising, Jason; Rakovan, Lance; Dricks, Victor
Cc: McLean, Linda; Owen, Lucy
Subject: FW: UPDATE ON NRC ACTIONS TO INCREASE STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION - PUBLIC MEETING ON 9/22

Importance: High

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The following is the e-mail I sent to San Luis Obispo, CA County Supervisor Adam Hill to update him on the actions taken in response to his and others' concerns about the planned GEIS rulemaking meeting in Westlake Village, CA. He wrote a letter to Region IV on September 1st urging the NRC to conduct a GEIS public meeting close to the Diablo Canyon plant, believing that the Westlake Village location stifled the ability of residents living near Diablo Canyon to participate in the process. I spoke with him by telephone last week to explain the rationale for selection of the meeting location and some of the alternate means by which stakeholders could make their comments on the proposed rulemaking known to the NRC. The following e-mail updated him on the NRC's compensatory actions taken to address his concerns.

Lucy, could you please place this in ADAMS?

Thanks,

Bill Maier

From: Maier, Bill
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2009 12:49 AM
To: 'ahill@co.slo.ca.us'
Cc: 'sbaker@co.slo.ca.us'
Subject: UPDATE ON NRC ACTIONS TO INCREASE STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION - PUBLIC MEETING ON 9/22

Dear Supervisor Hill,

I apologize for sending such a long and web link-laden e-mail to you, but I am traveling away from the office this week and am unable to send a letter.

I wanted to provide you an update of the actions the NRC has taken, in response to your September 1 letter and requests from others, to enhance stakeholder input to the NRC's proposed rule change. We have heard and understand the concerns expressed by several individuals and organizations about a lack of opportunity for stakeholder involvement and have thus far performed the following actions to alleviate this:

- The NRC organization sponsoring the meeting has arranged for teleconferencing capability for persons wishing to participate in the meeting but unable to travel to the Westlake Village location on September 22. The following web location contains information about this meeting:

  http://adamswebsearch2.nrc.gov/idmws/ViewDocByAccession.asp?AccessionNumber=ML092580192
  The meeting notice provides contact information for individuals to obtain the telephone bridge number and pass code.
  Those contacts are the following persons:

CONTACTS:	Jeffrey Rikhoff, NRR 301-415-1090	Bo Pham, NRR 301-415-8450	Jason Lising, NRR 301-415-3220

	Jeffrey.Rikhoff@nrc.gov	Bo.Pham@nrc.gov	Jason.Lising@nrc.gov

- The sponsoring NRC organization has also provided on the above web location Adobe .pdf files of the slides that the NRC staff will use to support their presentation. This arrangement greatly simplifies public access to these documents, which would otherwise only be available by use of the NRC's document search engine. Use of this search engine is a more complex and potentially confusing process to those not familiar with its nuances. With the slides obtainable from the above location, individuals wishing to participate by telephone may be able to follow the NRC process as conveniently as someone sitting in the actual meeting room.

- The NRC will issue a news release that provides details about the meeting as well as other methods by which individuals may have their voices heard in the rulemaking process. While the actual news release for the Westlake Village meeting has not yet been issued, it will look much like the news release which may be viewed at the following web location describing a similar meeting that will occur this week:

  http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2009/09-037.i.html

  As we discussed in our telephone conversation last week, attendance at these meetings is only one of four methods in which individuals may provide comments on the proposed rulemaking. The other methods include two distinct on-line options, a mail option and a fax option. The planned news release will provide the web links to the on-line options as well as the NRC docket number which commenters should reference when providing on-line comments. The two on-line locations which may be accessed to provide comments are:

  www.regulations.gov (Docket I.D. NRC-2008-0608); and
  mailto:Rulemaking.Comments@nrc.gov

The NRC staff conducting these meetings asked me to mention that there will be other opportunities for stakeholder involvement in the license renewal environmental review process. We discussed the public meeting planned for October 1st from NRC Headquarters which will be web streamed and provided with teleconference capability. Additionally, for each power plant that applies for a license extension, the NRC will conduct an environmental scoping meeting in the vicinity of the plant. Persons wishing to provide the NRC with site-specific information which may require a site specific environmental review beyond the requirements of the GEIS determination, may do so at this meeting.

I hope the above actions demonstrate that the NRC wants to be responsive to the concerns of the residents living around the Diablo Canyon plant. I recognize that the above gestures do not completely meet your goal to conduct a dedicated meeting near Diablo Canyon, but they will increase those residents' ability to participate in the rulemaking process. The NRC organization sponsoring the Westlake Village meeting does not believe it is practical to cancel that meeting at this late stage in the process.

I think you should know that other organizations and individuals are continuing to make the same request as you did in your September 1 letter. The NRC is being sensitive to those requests. If the NRC decides to adopt additional compensatory measures in response to the meeting requests, I will do my best to keep you promptly informed.

Very Sincerely,

Bill Maier
Regional State Liaison Officer
NRC Region 4 Office
Arlington, TX