

Abraham, Susan

From: Kipfer, Lorna, *NRC*
Sent: Tuesday, June 05, 2012 4:29 PM
To: Abraham, Susan; Le, Hong
Cc: Langlie, Liz; Moore, Toye
Subject: REVIEW/COMMENT: Draft Waiver for RIC 2013
Attachments: EDO G20120383 OMB Memo M-12-12 Waiver revised 060512 rev2.docx

Susan and Hong,

As promised, attached for your review is a draft waiver for the Chairman's approval. Per the EDO ticket, the transmittal memo is to be signed by the EDO. If you would like to meet and discuss, please let us know. Otherwise, feel free to vet through ADM, OGC and CFO simultaneously.

Please let us know if we can help in this process.

Lorna and Liz

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Save the Date!
NRC's 25th Annual Regulatory
Information Conference
March 12-14, 2013

MEMORANDUM TO: Chairman Jaczko

FROM: R. W. Borchardt
Executive Director for Operations

SUBJECT: CHAIRMAN WAIVER FOR RIC 2013 CONSISTENT WITH
GUIDANCE IN OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
MEMORANDUM M-12-12, "PROMOTING EFFICIENT
SPENDING TO SUPPORT AGENCY OPERATIONS"

Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Memorandum M-12-12, issued to executive departments and agencies on May 11, 2012, entitled, "Promoting Efficient Spending to Support Agency Operations," provides a series of new policies and practices related to Travel, Conferences, Real Property, and Fleet Management.

The NRC's Regulatory Information Conference (RIC) is directly impacted by the new policy identified in "Section 2 – Conferences" which states, "*An agency shall not incur net expenses greater than \$500,000 from its own funds on a single conference, including conferences that are sponsored or hosted by the agency. The agency head may provide a waiver from this policy if it is determined that exceptional circumstances exist whereby spending in excess of \$500,000 on a single conference is the most cost-effective option to achieve a compelling purpose.*"

Consistent with the above guidance from OMB, enclosed for your approval is a waiver for the 2013 RIC.

Enclosure: As stated

CONTACT: Name, Position Title
Phone Number

OMB Memorandum M-12-12
Promoting Efficient Spending to Support Agency Operations

Section 2 - Conferences: Prohibit Expenses in Excess of \$500,000 on a Single Conference

As agency head of the NRC, I am exercising my authority to waive the policy stated in OMB's Memorandum M-12-12, dated May 11, 2012, which prohibits agencies from incurring expenses in excess of \$500,000 on a single conference. The NRC's Annual Regulatory Information Conference (RIC) is the largest public meeting sponsored by the NRC, and its expenses exceed \$500,000, however, it is clearly evident to me that exceptional circumstances exist, as described below, whereby the FY13 RIC achieves both a compelling purpose and a most cost-effective option for the agency.

The NRC's RIC provides a unique forum for NRC staff and its stakeholders to share information and exchange views, perspectives and concerns about the important safety and security issues set before the agency, which is consistent with the NRC's mission, *"to license and regulate the Nation's civilian use of byproduct, source and special nuclear materials to ensure adequate protection of public health and safety, promote the common defense and security, and protect the environment."*

Since its inception in 1987, the RIC has grown to become one of the premier nuclear conferences of its kind in the world. It is widely-attended, bringing together more than 3,000 participants from over 34 countries, consisting of members of the public, Federal, State, and local government officials; nuclear safety regulators from other nations; experts from our national laboratories; advocacy groups; media representatives; licensees; vendors and other interested stakeholders. The technical program features nuclear experts from across the agency, as well as external speakers from industry, academia, and the international community. This three-day educational conference provides an exceptional opportunity for attendees to hear first-hand views of the Commission related to emerging regulatory issues and policy matters facing the agency.

The RIC reflects NRC's commitment to conduct our work openly and transparently and to ensure we have the critical information necessary to reach the best safety and security decisions, which are essential to the development of informed policy making and effective regulatory oversight. In the aftermath of recent events and natural disasters of late, this cross-pollination of information amongst members of the nuclear arena and communication exchange between NRC and our stakeholders is crucial to carrying out the mission of the agency.

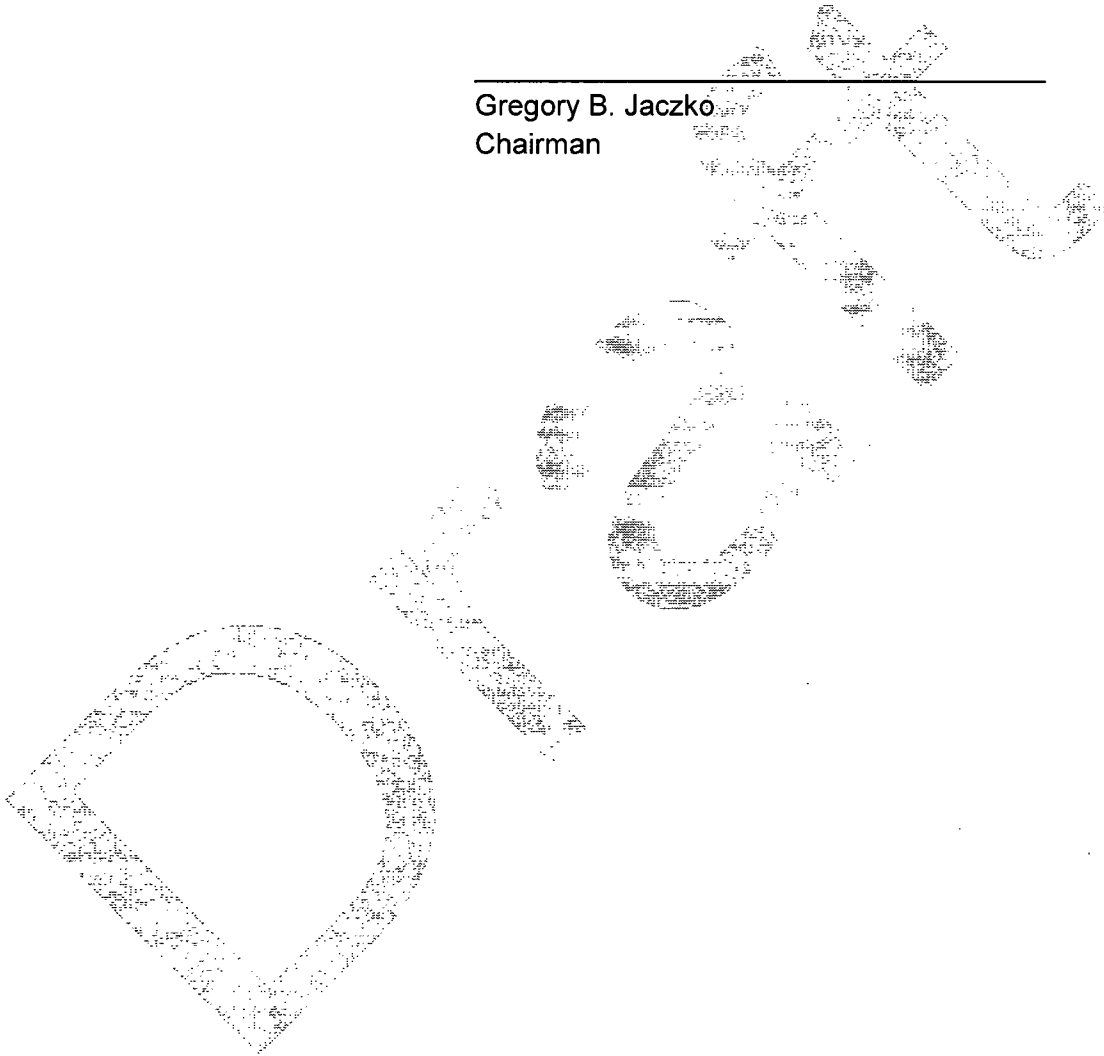
The face-to face interaction with members of industry, private interest groups and other stakeholders is vital and provides a breadth of opportunity to network, share ideas, search for solutions and establish relationships with colleagues from around the world. The RIC is highly valued by many for its technical and educational content and its continuation is strongly supported by industry as reflected in Nuclear Energy Institute's [letter](#) [hyperlink "letter"] to NRC dated June 1, 2012. Additionally, our international colleagues in Japan proactively sought out the NRC and targeted the RIC to use as a model for hosting a similar regulatory conference.

As Chairman of the NRC, I can attest that the costs associated with executing a conference of this magnitude are meticulously monitored to ensure all monies are spent in the most cost effective and efficient manner.

Consistent with the guidance in OMB's Memorandum M-12-12, dated May 11, 2012, I hereby waive the policy for RIC 2013.

Approval:

Gregory B. Jaczko
Chairman



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CONTACT: Name, Position Title
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