

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

Date Printed: Aug 08, 2012 12:49

PAPER NUMBER: LTR-12-0412 **LOGGING DATE:** 08/08/2012

ACTION OFFICE: SECY

AUTHOR: Katie Sweeney (Natl. Mining Assoc.)

AFFILIATION: DC

ADDRESSEE: CHRM Allison Macfarlane

SUBJECT: Requests that the Commission consider scheduling a meeting on uranium recovery regulatory issues to allow Commission members to be thoroughly briefed by industry and other interested stakeholders on October 16, 2012 or October 18, 2012

ACTION: Appropriate

DISTRIBUTION: RF, Commissioners to receive a copy of their own letter.

LETTER DATE: 08/03/2012

ACKNOWLEDGED No

SPECIAL HANDLING:

NOTES: SECY will address in Commission Agenda Planning. On 10/16 and 10/18 a quorum of the Commission is unavailable. SECY was tracking a Feb./March 2013 potential brief. EDO will be consulted regarding moving up this date.

FILE LOCATION: ADAMS

DATE DUE:

DATE SIGNED:



KATIE SWEENEY
General Counsel

August 3, 2012

The Honorable Allison M. Macfarlane
Chairman
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Chairman Macfarlane:

Recently, representatives of the National Mining Association (NMA) met with each of the commissioners as well as key Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff to discuss a variety of regulatory issues of interest to the domestic uranium recovery industry. Among the most important issues was the request that the Commission consider scheduling an annual meeting on uranium recovery regulatory issues to allow Commission members to be thoroughly briefed by industry and other interested stakeholders.

In early 2010, the Commission held a briefing at which many interested stakeholders, including NMA representatives, provided their views on critical uranium recovery regulatory issues. At that briefing, each stakeholder was permitted five minutes to present comments with marginal additional time to answer questions posed by the Commission at their discretion. During our visit last month, NMA suggested that five minutes of testimony is insufficient to allow stakeholders to adequately address critical issues and that the Commission would be better served if stakeholders were allotted more time. As you are aware, due to NRC's primary focus on nuclear reactor health and safety, uranium recovery issues tends to receive less attention but currently, the uranium recovery industry is one of the most dynamic and evolving components of NRC's regulatory environment. There are a large number of major licensing actions pending before NRC staff now and more coming in the future. Thus, additional time for industry and interested stakeholders to provide their comments and feedback will furnish the Commission with necessary insight into the current regulatory environment to enable more knowledgeable decision-making and NRC staff oversight.

In addition to ensure effective briefings and productive discussions, NMA suggests that all stakeholders' slides, written testimony, and any other detailed information be shared in advance with the commission, NRC staff and others speaking at the briefing. Advance submissions on relevant regulatory issues also will be a good way to focus the scope of discussion. By allowing stakeholders to submit issues in advance, the

Chairman Macfarlane
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Commission can direct such stakeholders to consult NRC Staff on which issues are of particular importance to NRC from a legal and/or policy perspective and to direct stakeholders to prepare and submit specific advance information that the Commission deems most relevant to a productive briefing.

NMA sincerely appreciates the opportunity to provide the Commission with its input on relevant regulatory issues and on the concept of annual briefings for the uranium recovery industry and interested stakeholders. As many NMA uranium members will be in town the week of October 15, NMA respectfully requests the next uranium recovery briefing be scheduled either the morning of October 16 or the morning of October 18. Please do not hesitate to contact me to discuss this matter at (202) 463-2627. Thank you very much for your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Katie Sweeney".

Katie Sweeney
General Counsel

Remsburg, Kristy

From: Sweeney, Katie [KSweeney@nma.org]
Sent: Friday, August 03, 2012 3:47 PM
To: NRCExecSec Resource
Subject: Briefing request letters
Attachments: Briefing request letter Svinicki.pdf; Briefing request letter Ostendorff.pdf; Briefing request letter Apostolakis.pdf; Briefing request letter Magwood.pdf; Briefing request letter Macfarlane.pdf

<<Briefing request letter Svinicki.pdf>> <<Briefing request letter Ostendorff.pdf>> P1
<<Briefing request letter Apostolakis.pdf>> ea <<Briefing request letter Magwood.pdf>> se
<<Briefing request letter Macfarlane.pdf>> transmit the attached letters to the
Commissioners. Thanks so much. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Katie Sweeney
General Counsel
National Mining Association
101 Constitution Avenue, Suite 500 East
Washington, DC 20001

ksweeney@nma.org
202/463-2627



KATIE SWEENEY
General Counsel

August 3, 2012

The Honorable Kristine L. Svinicki
Commissioner
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Commissioner Svinicki:

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Katie Sweeney
General Counsel



KATIE SWEENEY
General Counsel

August 3, 2012

The Honorable William C. Ostendorff
Commissioner
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Commissioner Ostendorff:

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Katie Sweeney
General Counsel



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General Counsel

August 3, 2012

The Honorable George Apostolakis
Commissioner
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Commissioner Apostolakis:

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General Counsel



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August 3, 2012

The Honorable William D. Magwood, IV
Commissioner
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Commissioner Magwood:

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