

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

*Date Printed: Aug 08, 2012 12:49*

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**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  
August 3, 2012  
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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

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**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](mailto: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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Sincerely,

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Katie Sweeney  
General Counsel



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

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