

January 7, 2013

Administrator Lisa P. Jackson
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Jackson:

Thank you for meeting with me and other representatives of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) on Wednesday, December 19, 2012, to discuss areas of mutual interest and cooperation between our agencies. As we agreed, the working relationship between our two agencies is as strong as ever, permitting our organizations to collaborate effectively and efficiently in the performance of our respective missions. In so doing, we better serve the American people.

Our meeting covered the following topics:

1. Regulatory activities – we agreed that future coordination of our respective interactions with the Office of Management and Budget may prove beneficial as we pursue rulemaking approvals.
2. National Strategy for Managing the Backend of the Fuel Cycle – we agreed that opportunities for regulatory coordination will exist once the Administration releases its strategy to implement the recommendations of the *Blue Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future*. We also discussed whether or not Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulatory activities are eligible for funding from the Nuclear Waste Fund.
3. Fukushima Dai-ichi Lessons – after offering insights from my recent visit to Japan and the Fukushima accident site, we reflected on the steps already taken by the Japanese toward recovery and some of the obstacles they overcame. We acknowledged the challenges in front of both of our agencies to take actions that will prevent similar accidents or be prepared to effectively respond to and mitigate the impacts of a low-probability, but high consequence, extreme radiological event.
4. Protective Action Guides – we discussed the status of EPA's Post-Accident Recovery Protective Action Guide (PAG) and acknowledged that the interagency process leading to this PAG was effective.

From our discussions, I understand that EPA would be interested in additional information on NRC's Agreement State program and the manner that NRC interacts with the States as co-regulators of radioactive material users. Mr. Mark Satorius, Director of the Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs, will coordinate a follow up meeting with Deputy Administrator Perciasepe in the near future.

Thank you again for your hospitality. We look forward to continuing to work with EPA in the coming year. And on a personal note, I want to congratulate, commend, and thank you for your years of service to the nation as the EPA Administrator.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Allison M. Macfarlane