



Nuclear Energy Information Service

Illinois' Nuclear Power Watchdog since 1981

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20 August, 2013

The Honorable Allison Macfarlane
Chair, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop O-16G4
Washington, DC 20555-0001

RE: TIME-SENSITIVE - request for NRC to hold waste confidence meeting in Chicago

Greetings Chairwoman Macfarlane:

We hope that this letter finds you well, and you settling well into your job.

When I and a number of safe-energy advocates met with you in September 2012, two themes that came up in our discussion were transparency, and also public trust. These issues have come to the fore on the issue of the upcoming waste confidence hearings NRC is sponsoring.

We write to ask you to direct staff to hold one of its upcoming waste confidence hearings in Chicago in late September/early October.

We are baffled that the NRC did not select Chicago as a site for one of the upcoming hearings. To our shock and bewilderment NRC has not only not scheduled a meeting in the state with the most nuclear reactors (14) and waste (>9,000 tons), and which hosts NRC's very own Region-III office, but staff has steadfastly resisted numerous requests to consider holding such a hearing in Illinois. California (with 2 operating and 2 newly closed reactors) has TWO hearing sites scheduled; Colorado (with NO operating reactors), has a hearing scheduled for Denver.

Last September I took at face value your desire to improve relations between the Agency and the general public, as well as your desire for better transparency and building public trust and respect. This rather glaring omission is detrimental to all of those goals.

We ask that you directly and publicly intervene to secure a public hearing in Chicago on the waste confidence rule in late September/early October. Since NRC has not issued dates yet for the hearings it has scheduled, it is clear that nothing is yet set in stone, and time appears to exist for your intervention.

We eagerly await your time-sensitive reply.

Gratefully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Kraft", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David Kraft, Director

cc: Sen. Richard Durbin
Sen. Mark Kirk



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"Illinois' Nuclear Power Watchdog for 25 years"

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FAX COVERSHEET

Date: 20 August, 2013

RE: NRC waste confidence meetings; IL site needed

Fax To: Chwm. Allison MacFarlane / cp Mary Woolen

Organization: NRC

Fax Number: (301) 415-3504

Message:

request for a Chicago hearing site.