

March 20, 2014

Mr. John W. Stetkar, Chairman
Advisory Committee on
Reactor Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS
REGARDING 10 CFR PART 61 - REVISIONS TO LOW-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE
WASTE DISPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

Dear Mr. Stetkar:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff appreciates your continued interest in the revisions to the low-level radioactive waste disposal requirements in Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 61. The NRC staff also appreciates the views expressed by the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) on this important rulemaking in its February 19, 2014, letter (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML14041A152), and the multiple opportunities for the staff to present and hold discussions with the ACRS and other interested persons regarding this rulemaking.

As you are aware, on July 18, 2013, the staff delivered to the Commission a proposed rule package for its consideration (SECY-13-0075; ADAMS No. ML13129A268). The staff believes the proposed rule package addressed the direction provided by the Commission in Staff Requirements Memorandum (SRM)-SECY-08-0147, SRM-SECY-10-0043, and SRM-COMWDM-11-0002/COMGEA-11-0002. On February 12, 2014, the Commission issued SRM-SECY-13-0075 (ADAMS Accession No. ML14043A371) approving publication of the proposed rule and the associated draft guidance for public comment, subject to the comments and changes noted in the SRM. These comments and changes have modified the proposed rule. Notwithstanding these changes, the staff would like to address a few points raised in your February 19, 2014, letter report, as noted in the enclosure. The staff is confident these issues will receive numerous comments when the staff publishes the proposed rule later this year.

J. Stetkar

-2-

The staff is following the Commission direction in readying the proposed rule for publication, and these comments are provided for context as the public evaluates proposed revisions to Part 61.

The NRC staff looks forward to further interactions with the ACRS on this rulemaking.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Mark A. Satorius
Executive Director
for Operations

Enclosure:
Staff Response to Discussion Points

cc: Chairman Macfarlane
Commissioner Svinicki
Commissioner Apostolakis
Commissioner Magwood
Commissioner Ostendorff
SECY

