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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6175

RYAN JACKSON, MAJORITY STAFF DIRECTOR
BETTINA POIRIER, DEMOCRATIC STAFF DIRECTOR

May 13, 2016

Mr. Stephen G. Burns
Chairman
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop 0-16G4
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Chairman Burns,

On behalf of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, we would like to thank you for testifying before the Committee on Wednesday, April 6, 2016. The committee greatly appreciates your attendance and participation in this hearing.

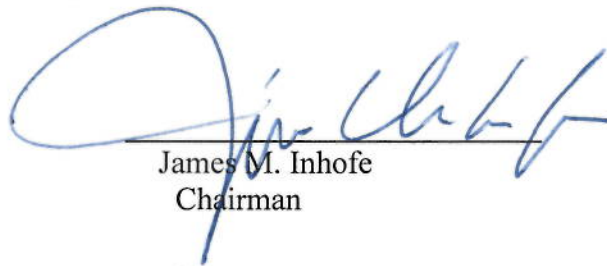
In order to maximize the opportunity for communication between you and the Committee, follow-up questions have been submitted by the members. To comply with Committee rules, please e-mail a copy of your responses to Elizabeth.Olsen@epw.senate.gov or deliver one hard copy within 14 days after the date of this letter. Responses should be delivered to the EPW Committee at 410 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510. Due to security restrictions, only couriers or employees with government identification will be permitted to bring packages into the building.

If you have any questions about this invitation or the hearing, please feel free to contact Annie Caputo on the Committee's Majority staff at (202) 224-6176, or Jason Albritton on the Committee's Minority staff at (202) 224-8832.

Sincerely,



Barbara Boxer
Ranking Member



James M. Inhofe
Chairman

Senate Environment and Public Works Committee
hearing entitled, "Oversight Hearing: The President's FY 2017 Budget Request for the
Nuclear Regulatory Commission"

April 6, 2016

Questions for the Record

Hon. Chairman Stephen Burns

Chairman Inhofe:

1. In 1998, the Commission conducted a stakeholder engagement process that identified several areas for improvement including the timeliness and fiscally-responsible review of licensing actions; stricter application of the Backfit Rule; the systematic application of a clear standard of safety significance in regulatory decision-making rather than vague terms such as enhanced defense-in-depth; more disciplined use of Requests for Additional Information, or RAIs; and the need for an objective, quantitative assessment of safety performance. During the April 6th hearing, you committed to hold a similar stakeholder meeting within three months.
 - a. Please describe steps taken since April 6th pursuant to this commitment and the Commission's plans for the stakeholder engagement meeting(s) including the scope of the process, the timeframe for conducting the meeting(s) and completing the process, and plans for identifying participating stakeholders. SECY/
EDO/
Chrm
 - b. Following the 1998 stakeholder engagement meeting, then-Chairman Sheila Jackson tasked the NRC's Executive Director of Operations (EDO) with action on a set of high-priority tasks identified in the stakeholders meeting. The executive director responded in less than a month with a plan to address issues that had been raised both in the meeting and by Congress. During the April 6th hearing, you committed to task the current EDO with a similar responsibility and to report progress to this Committee every couple of months. Please describe the plans for you and your fellow Commissioners to work with the EDO to ensure proper implementation of key outcomes and recommendations from this stakeholder process. EDO
 - c. Please confirm that the stakeholder meeting will be conducted by July 6, 2016. SECY
 - d. Please confirm that the first progress report to this Committee will be provided by September 6, 2016. EDO
2. In SECY 14-0087, the Commission gave direction to the staff regarding the use of qualitative factors, stating:
"The appropriate degree of weight of application of qualitative factors in regulatory decision making ultimately lies with the Commission."

However in response to questions following the October 7, 2016, hearing, the NRC responded that the Commission's direction was limited to regulatory and backfit analyses.

- a. Does that mean the Commission’s purview with regard to the application of qualitative factors is limited to regulatory and backfit analyses and that the NRC staff is otherwise free to utilize qualitative factors elsewhere, as with the Reactor Oversight Process? EDO/OGC
- b. The FY2017 budget indicates the NRC missed its timeliness metric for the Significance Determination Process by only one day in 2014, and because of a complicated issue at one plant in 2015. Please describe why it is necessary to inject additional subjectivity into the process when the NRC has only narrowly missed its timeliness metric. EDO
3. During the hearing, the Commission testified that it has been actively engaging with the staff regarding the development of proposals to modify the reactor oversight process, and that the staff was soliciting stakeholder input on proposed modifications. The Commission noted that, while some modest adjustments may be within the staff’s authority to make, any proposal that would have a significant impact to the program would require prior Commission approval.
- a. What is the status of the proposals to modify the reactor oversight process? EDO
- b. When does the Commission expect to receive the staff’s paper on the proposed changes, including those that require Commission endorsement or approval? EDO
4. If a plant receives a “white” finding in the Reactor Oversight Process, that finding is reported for a full year. If the plant fixes the problem and the NRC inspects and verifies that fix within three months, the NRC continues to show the white finding for a year even though the problem has been resolved.
- a. Please describe the justification for apparently misleading the public by indicating a plant is deficient even after the problem is corrected and has returned to normal. EDO
5. Do you agree that the NRC should be able to establish, and its licensees and applicants rely on, schedules that assume NRC will live up to its commitment to process licensing amendment requests efficiently? EDO
- a. Do you agree that NRC staff should adhere to its internal procedures to ensure timely and disciplined review of license amendment requests? EDO/OGC
- b. Does NRC have the right mix of knowledgeable experts to support sets necessary to manage its licensing workload? EDO
- c. What is NRC’s long-term strategy for ensuring the capability to provide predictable, reliable, and timely processing of license amendment requests? EDO
- d. Considering the NRC’s performance metric of completing 95% of license amendment reviews in one year, what percentage could be done in 6 months? How much might the NRC save by implementing that stretch goal? EDO

6. Please provide the trends for the last ten years, including year-by-year percentage changes, with regard to timeliness and efficiency performance metrics for the following: license amendments for reactor and materials licensees, power uprates, license renewals, COLs, early site permits, design certifications. EDO
7. The current goal for NRC review of a license renewal application is 22 months (uncontested) or 30 months (contested).
- a. Of the 20 most recent license renewal reviews, how many were completed within 22 months of an application being docketed? EDO
- b. What actions is the agency taking to restore the efficiency and predictability to these reviews? EDO
- c. How will the agency ensure efficient reviews of applications for subsequent license renewal? EDO
- d. Please describe any unique or emerging issues that may affect reviews for subsequent license renewal applications that may not be encompassed by existing aging management programs. EDO
8. Please summarize the outcomes and directives of the April 1st SRM concerning ITAAC hearing procedures. OGC paper SECY-15-0010 EDO/OGC
- a. Please identify the methods and metrics used by the NRC to track ITAAC Closure Notification (ICN) processing timeframes, along with resources requested by the Commission for ITAAC activities as part of its FY2017 budget submittal. EDO/CFO
- b. Please describe how the Commission currently plans to process the “wave” of ICNs anticipated to occur as construction at the reactors in Georgia and South Carolina nears completion. EDO
9. In your opening statement, you referred to a paper recently submitted to the Commission outlining additional areas for longer-term efficiencies and projected workload changes. Please describe the purpose, scope, and status of that paper. As a result of that paper, what longer-term actions does the NRC anticipate taking to achieve additional savings and efficiencies in addition to those listed in your testimony? EDO/CFO
- a. When would those changes be implemented and what is the estimate, individually and in total, of those savings?
10. In your testimony, you cite a reduction in NRC resources of \$74 million and 280 FTE since 2014. Please provide the reduction in spending and FTE from FY 2013 to the present. CFO
11. Please describe, with as much detail as possible, the Commission’s current plans and expectations concerning the use of FY2015 carryover funds in FY2016 and the amount of carryover funds anticipated in FY2016 and the NRC plans for use of those funds. CFO/EDO

12. The EY Overhead Assessment Report found that “[w]ith the exceptions of FY 2015 and FY 2016, NRC’s mission support costs as a percentage of total outlays have increased year-over-year for the last decade.” To roll back this decade-long increase in corporate support costs, the NRC must do far more than simply reclassify some Office and Corporate Support resources into other budget categories.
- a. What specific actions is the NRC proposing to take in FY 2017 to reduce the NRC’s rate of corporate support spending and bring it in line with peer agencies (which EY found only spend between 20 percent and 32 percent of their total budgets on mission support)? CFO/EDO
13. The Commission testimony states:
- “The NRC has taken a hard look at the proposed budget, and is proposing reductions in both full-time equivalents (FTE) and contract support dollars that represent real savings. As we continue our work through the Project Aim initiative, we anticipate additional savings and efficiencies to come.”*
- a. Given that some of the cost savings should be achieved in 2016 – particularly given the FTE reductions from early out/buy out authority exercised early in FY 2016 -- please provide an updated estimate of any carry-over funds the NRC anticipates at the end of FY 2016. CFO/EDO
- b. Considering that the 2016 fee recovery rule is not yet final, please describe the feasibility of adjusting the fee recovery amount to prevent over-collection. CFO
- c. If some of the 2016 cost savings will be obligated for other purposes, please provide a detailed description of what the funds will be obligated to and the fiscal year in which the obligated funds are expected to be expended, including specific amounts. CFO
- d. The NRC FY 2017 budget request is for 3,537 FTE yet Commissioner Baran testified that the NRC expects to drop to 3,344 FTE by the end of 2017. That indicates there will be savings that are not reflected in the FY 2017 budget. Please provide an estimate of the anticipated additional savings and efficiencies resulting from the Project Aim recommendations and workforce planning including stringent hiring controls. CFO/EDO
- e. I understand the NRC is pursuing additional early out/buy out authority in its efforts to right-size the agency. Please provide the number of FTE reduction, the estimated cost savings, any hiring restrictions applicable to the vacated positions, and the timeframe for employees that qualify and accept an early out/buy out to conclude their NRC service. EDO/CFO
- f. Congress should account for these savings and approve a smaller NRC budget, or the NRC will be forced to collect more fees than necessary and end the year with unspent “carry-over” funds, correct? CFO
14. Please provide the NRC’s current number of FTEs. CFO/EDO

15. In light of the continuing FTE reductions, what actions is the NRC's taking to right-size its office space footprint? Please provide dates when the actions will be completed and an estimate of the savings that will be achieved. EDO/
CFO
16. As part of Project Aim, has the agency considered the feasibility of reducing the number of regional offices from four to three? If not, why not? If so, please indicate the estimate of the savings that could be achieved and the time frame for realizing those savings. EDO/
CFO
17. Agency staff provided the Commission with recommended actions to close out the remaining Fukushima Tier 2 and Tier 3 issues by the end of 2016. EDO
- a. Does the agency remain on target to meet this schedule?
- b. If so, what impact will the close out of Tier 2 and 3 issues have on the FY 2017 Budget Request? EDO/
CFO
18. For each of the last five years, please list the amount of resources the NRC has spent of its post-Fukushima effort. Please provide a breakdown of how fees were recovered from individual licensees/applicants/certificate holders through 10 CFR Part 170 fees, or from categories of licenses through 10 CFR Part 171 fees. CFO
19. Following the March 22 terrorist bombings in Brussels, Belgium, there were reports that the suspects had also considered attacking nuclear facilities. EDO/OIP
- a. Has the NRC reviewed the incident?
- b. Does the NRC's current security program, including its insider threat mitigation requirements, adequately cover the potential threats inherent in the incident? EDO/OIP
20. You testified about the Commission's review of a proposal to establish a single unified approach to track NRC rulemaking activities so the public and stakeholders have real-time access to current information. Please describe the scope and status of that process, and the anticipated timeframe for completion. EDO
21. When will the NRC staff implement the Commission's decision on early Commission involvement in the rulemaking process? EDO
22. Please describe the Commission's current efforts to instill more regulatory discipline and efficiency into the RAI process, including but not limited to any business process improvements, establishment of metrics to measure internal performance consistent with established procedural requirements, and increased management oversight of the RAI process. EDO
23. The Commission has recently revised its Internal Commission Procedures (dated March 24, 2016). Please provide a "redline/strike-out" version showing all tracked changes made relative to the previous version. SECY

Senator Vitter:

24. How does the NRC's standard hourly charge for service compare to other engineering firms? CFO/EDO
25. What are the estimated savings of consolidating NRC headquarters to 3 buildings? CFO/EDO
26. What is the current projected carryover balance from FY2016, and where did it come from? CFO
27. Chairman Burns stated in a previous hearing that Project Aim identified \$41.1 Million in potential savings for FY2017. However, the Commission's FY2017 request is a reduction of only \$19.8 million from FY2016, \$15 million of which is from elimination of the integrated university program. Why does the 2017 request not incorporate additional aspects of Project AIM's identified improvements? CFO/EDO
28. What actions are currently being taken to develop licensing for non-light-water reactors? EDO
29. How much funding is currently being spent on non-light-water reactors and SMRs, respectively? CFO/EDO
30. How will the \$5 million request for advanced reactors licensing be distributed among NRC programs? EDO/CFO
31. What is the estimated total cost and necessary person-hours to develop an efficient non-light-water reactor licensing process? EDO/CFO
32. What activities is the NRC currently taking to examine interim consolidated waste storage? EDO/OGC
33. Is the NRC currently continuing any activities to develop a permanent spent fuel storage solution? EDO/OGC

Senator Barrasso:

34. In the hearing, you committed to consider increasing the license duration for uranium recovery. Please describe the steps that will be taken in this process, including milestones for each step, and the timeframe for completing the process. EDO

Senator Rounds:

35. Your testimony states that the FY 2017 budget represents a decrease of \$19.8 million from 2016, \$15 million of which is a decision not to fund the university grant program. That leaves a decrease of \$4.8 million and 90 FTE in the NRC's offices. NRC staff have indicated to Committee staff that each FTE reduction presents an average savings of \$165,000. Hence a reduction of 90 FTE should result in \$14.8 million in savings.
- a. Please provide a detailed explanation of why the \$14.8 million is not reflected in the NRC's budget request including a detailed list of how the money was spent. CFO/EDO

35. Your written testimony states that Project Aim savings resulted in a reduction of \$9.9 million in the FY 2017 budget. Given that the budget for the NRC program offices only decreased by \$4.8 million, please describe the reason for this disparity including a detailed explanation of how the money was spent. CFO/EDO
36. You testified that the NRC has identified an additional \$30 million in savings. Please indicate when we will see those savings achieved. CFO/EDO
37. Please provide a current estimate of the carry-over funds NRC anticipates having at the end of FY 2016. CFO
38. Please describe the actions being taken to reduce the NRC's backlog in licensing action reviews and prevent its reoccurrence including any process improvements. EDO

Senator Sanders:

39. What is the process for reviewing and processing public comments in the current decommissioning rulemaking proceeding (docket NRC-2015-0070)? How are public comments weighed by the Commission against comments from the industry? EDO
40. How does the NRC intend to educate the public about the existence and meaning of the ongoing decommissioning rulemaking process? What is the NRC's plan for community outreach for the remainder of this decommissioning rulemaking process? EDO
41. Has the NRC planned any public field meetings to gather comments or testimony from communities where nuclear plants are decommissioning now, or will be soon? If not, why? EDO
42. Why has the NRC continued to waive its own regulations, especially those pertaining to the decommissioning trust fund, even though it is working to create new decommissioning rules? EDO/OGC
43. In light of the fact that spent nuclear fuel is kept on the Vermont Yankee site in Vernon in SAFSTOR, what justification is there for requiring less insurance, specifically at odds with the current NRC regulations? EDO/OGC
44. What justification is there for the NRC to approve withdrawals from Vermont Yankees Decommissioning Trust Fund for spent fuel management when NRC's regulations expressly prohibit such use? (10 C.F.R. §50.75 at FN 1). EDO/OGC

Senator Fischer:

45. If a modification is necessary to bring a facility into compliance with existing NRC regulations, then it is exempt from analysis under the backfit rule according to the compliance exception. In the 1990's, industry raised concerns about the "...misuse of the OGC/EDO

compliance exception...” In a recent letter to the NRC, the Nuclear Energy Institute raised similar concerns: “...allowing the staff to apply the compliance exception to impose new or different interpretations of unchanged regulatory requirements would defeat the fundamental purpose of the backfit rule.”

- a. How does the Commission oversee the staff’s use of the compliance exception? OGC/EDO
 - b. Wouldn’t a new interpretation of an existing regulation constitute a policy matter for the Commission? OGC/EDO
 - c. What incentive does the staff have to notify the Commission if such a matter exists? OGC/EDO
46. For the last five years, please provide a list of the instances in which the NRC staff has exercised the compliance exception in the Backfit Rule. Please describe the issue under consideration, the justification for utilizing the exception, and the level of management responsible for making the decision. EDO
47. The NRC’s Committee to Review Generic Requirements, or “CRGR” “...ensures any generic backfits that are proposed for NRC-licensed power reactors, new reactors, and nuclear materials facilities...are appropriately justified on the bases of the backfit provisions...and the Commission’s backfit policy.” In questions following the October 7th hearing, I asked if the CRGR had reviewed a list of issues including several that members of this Committee has written about. The NRC responded: “These rules and documents were not reviewed by the CRGR because the proposing offices did not request CRGR review...”
- a. How can the CRGR perform a checks-and-balance role to ensure disciplined adherence to the backfit rule if the staff can simply decide *not* to ask for their review? EDO
48. In response to questions following the October 7th hearing, the NRC provided a copy of a previous Rulemaking Activity Plan indicating that it was marked “Official Use Only” and should not be released publicly. Correspondence from the Nuclear Energy Institute notes that it obtained a copy by filing a Freedom of Information Request. Given that rulemaking is such a fundamental activity, did the Commission decide to return to its previous practice of making rulemaking plans publicly available as part of its deliberation on “COMMISSION INVOLVEMENT IN EARLY STAGES OF RULEMAKING”? EDO

Senator Crapo:

49. Please provide the total amount of fees collected under Part 171 for each of the last 10 years, adjusted for inflation. CFO
- a. Please indicate whether the amount of annual fees collected in these years was adequate or inadequate to support the NRC’s safety and security mission. CFO

- b. Please also include the estimate of 10 CFR Part 171 fees the NRC anticipates collecting in under its FY 2017 budget. CFO
 - c. Please describe the difference between the amount of 10 CFR Part 171 fees the NRC anticipants collecting in its FY 2017 budget and the 10 CFR Part 171 fees the NRC collected in 2015. CFO
50. Please provide the amounts spent on physical and personnel security for each of the last ten years. CFO/EDO
- a. Please explain any annual increases for the amount spent on physical and personnel security over the past ten years in detail. CFO/EDO
 - b. Please provide an estimate of the decrease in these costs as the NRC continues to reduce its office space in White Flint Building 3 and White Flint Building 2. CFO/EDO
51. Please describe why the NRC believes the costs of the NRC’s international cooperation and assistance should be recovered from domestic licensees. OIP/EDO
52. Please provide a list of the NRC’s current performance metrics. EDO
- a. Please describe in detail any differences the NRC believes exist between the provisions in S. 2795 and the NRC’s existing metrics. EDO
 - b. Please also explain in detail how reporting requirements would limit the NRC’s flexibility in managing schedule performance. EDO
 - c. Please also explain whether the NRC believes that reporting requirements would prompt NRC staff to sacrifice safety in order to meet schedules. EDO
53. Considering that a corporate support spending rate of 28 percent was adequate in 2006, please explain in detail why returning to a 28 percent corporate support spending rate within the next several years is not achievable. EDO/CFO
54. On March 24, 2016, Mr. Victor McCree and Ms. Maureen Wylie wrote a tasking memo to staff citing SECY 16-0035 which recommended additional areas for future cost reductions including efficiencies in corporate support, and comparing to 2006. The memo stated: “The goal is to identify further efficiencies in light of future workload reductions.” If returning the NRC to corporate support spending level comparable to 2006 might impair the NRC’s safety and security mission, why was that year selected for comparison with regard to setting goals to find further efficiencies and workload reductions? EDO/
CFO
55. Please provide a detailed description of all of the ways the NRC captures overhead costs in its budget. Does “corporate support” leave out overhead costs that are captured in “office support” costs? CFO
56. Please provide a detailed accounting of the redefinition of corporate support costs. CFO

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| 57. Please provide precise, detailed information regarding all resources shifted from corporate support back into business lines since Fiscal Year 2011. | CFO |
| a. Please explain what was moved back into the business units. | CFO |
| b. Please explain when each moved occurred. | CFO |
| c. Please explain the cost associated with each move. | CFO |
| 58. If corporate support costs have been cut, please provide very detailed descriptions of the resources cut, when the resources were cut, and how much was saved as a result of these reductions. | CFO |
| a. Please clearly distinguish these reductions from the redefinitions of corporate support that amounted to cost-shifting into the business units. | CFO |
| 59. If corporate support costs have been cut (as distinct from resource realignment to business units), please provide a detailed accounting of what the savings were spent on. | CFO |
| a. If the savings were reallocated and spent, please describe why this action is nonetheless characterized by the NRC as a “cut” instead of as a reallocation of spending. | CFO |
| 60. Please provide a detailed accounting of why corporate support costs are increasing in spite of the corporate support cost shifting into the business units. Please reconcile this increase with the NRC assertions regarding its successes in cutting corporate support. | CFO |
| 61. Please describe what steps the NRC will take to reduce corporate support spending. Please do not reference opaque cost-shifts into business units. | CFO |
| a. Please provide the timelines for projected corporate support reduction. | CFO |
| b. Please list the amounts of future corporate support reductions. | CFO |
| 62. Please provide a detailed explanation of any possible further redefinition of corporate support or overhead costs. | CFO |
| 63. Please provide a detailed explanation of any future overhead cost-shifting that is under consideration, including cost-shifting or realignment associated with corporate support costs. | CFO |

Senator Sessions:

The FY2017 budget request for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) continues the disturbing trend of this administration refusing to request funding for Yucca Mountain. Ongoing efforts to implement the Department of Energy’s 2013 Strategy for the Management and Disposal of Used Nuclear Fuel and High-Level Radioactive Waste heighten my concerns. The Department’s strategy calls for a pilot interim storage facility and a larger, full-scale storage facility, while failing to acknowledge that “[c]urrent law provides no alternative repository site to Yucca Mountain, and it does not authorize DOE to open temporary storage facilities without a permanent repository in operation,” as the Congressional Research Service has stated.

Furthermore, suggestions that interim storage efforts may be pursued through a “consent-based approach” miss the point that Nye County in Nevada has already consented to--and Congress has already mandated--a permanent repository at Yucca Mountain.

64. Do you agree that the United States already has storage options for commercial spent nuclear fuel; that is, Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installations (ISFSI) located at NRC-licensed facilities across the nation? OGC

65. Do you agree that the NRC determined, in the Continued Storage Rule, that used nuclear fuel from commercial reactors can be safely managed in reactor fuel storage pools in the short term and in steel and concrete storage containers for longer timeframes? OGC

66. The Obama administration is focusing its efforts on interim storage while continuing to neglect its statutory duty under the Nuclear Waste Policy Act to proceed with the licensing process for permanent storage at Yucca Mountain. I am concerned that the NRC has been a willing participant in the current administration’s defiance of permanent nuclear storage mandates established by Congress.

The NRC is an independent commission that must operate in the manner required by law and unimpeded by political concerns. Please explain how the NRC’s failure to include funding for the Yucca Mountain license process is consistent with its obligations under the Nuclear Waste Policy Act, which provides that the NRC “shall consider” the Yucca license application and “shall issue a final decision approving or disapproving” the application. OGC

67. Budget request process:

a. Isn’t it true that the NRC budget request is prepared and approved by the NRC before it is ultimately sent to the Administration for its review? CFO

b. As Chairman of the NRC, did you include funding for Yucca Mountain licensing activities in your budget proposal? CFO

c. Have you informed the White House Office of Management and Budget that the Nuclear Waste Policy Act requires the NRC to consider the Yucca Mountain license application? CFO/OGC

68. It is my understanding that the NRC is refusing to request funds for the Yucca Mountain license application, while spending research funds studying “alternative geologic media” [i.e. rock structures other than Yucca Mountain] for purposes of waste disposal. CFO/EDO

Please identify all such expenditures by the NRC on research activities related to alternative geologic media since August 2013, when the D.C. Circuit issued a writ of mandamus ordering the NRC to spend available funds on the Yucca Mountain CFO/EDO

license activities. Further, please identify amounts the NRC anticipates spending in FY2016 and FY2017 on research related to “alternative geologic media.”

69. Please explain why the Commission would submit a budget to Congress that does not request funding for legally-mandated work on the Yucca license, while at the same time, spending funds on research for other alternative repository options? Why should electricity customers be forced to pay more for research on alternative geologic repositories, when the billions of dollars they have already paid for purposes of the permanent repository at Yucca Mountain are not being properly utilized for those purposes?

EDO/
OGC/
CFO

McCloskey, Bridin

From: Olsen, Elizabeth (EPW) [mailto:Elizabeth_Olsen@epw.senate.gov]

Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2016 3:47 PM

Subject: Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works Hearing on April 6, 2016 entitled, "Oversight Hearing: The President's FY 2017 Budget Request for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission": Follow Up Questions for Witness Mr. Stephen G. Burns

May 19, 2016

Mr. Stephen G. Burns
Chairman
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop 0-16G4
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Chairman Burns,

On behalf of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, we would like to thank you for testifying before the Committee on Wednesday, April 6, 2016. The committee greatly appreciates your attendance and participation in this hearing.

In order to maximize the opportunity for communication between you and the Committee, follow-up questions have been submitted by the members. To comply with Committee rules, please e-mail a copy of your responses to Elizabeth_Olsen@epw.senate.gov or deliver one hard copy within 14 days after the date of this email. Responses should be delivered to the EPW Committee at 410 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510. Due to security restrictions, only couriers or employees with government identification will be permitted to bring packages into the building.

If you have any questions about this invitation or the hearing, please feel free to contact Annie Caputo on the Committee's Majority staff at (202) 224-6176, or Jason Albritton on the Committee's Minority staff at (202) 224-8832.

Sincerely,

Barbara Boxer
Ranking Member

James M. Inhofe
Chairman

Elizabeth "Lizzy" Olsen, J.D.
Majority Director of Operations
Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
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