

MELVIN R. LAIRD
Suite 212
1730 Rhode Island Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

April 30, 1992

Dear Ivan:

I wanted to follow-up on a previous discussion we had regarding the recent revision implemented by the NRC to the Conflict of Interest (COI) Contract Clause. As a Board Member of Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC), we have been proud to offer expert technical support to the NRC over the last decade and have become the largest contractor for commercial work that the NRC has. We feel that this revision to the COI Contract Clause seriously jeopardizes our relationship through some unintended consequences.

Initially, the revision was implemented to increase open competition, prevent unfair competitive advantages, and assure that the most qualified contractors performed this technical support work. Unfortunately, the opposite is resulting from implementation of this provision. SAIC has already had to forego accepting one contract they were awarded as being the best qualified because of the strict interpretation of this "work for others" clause. This was painful for SAIC to do because we feel this superior technical support we offer to the NRC is of the utmost importance to public safety.

At the March 26, 1992, public hearing before various members of your staff, it was estimated by them that no decision would be forthcoming until the July-August time frame. We are concerned because there are five contracts that we are bidding on (including one we are entering BAPO proceedings on presently) that we will not be able to accept if awarded because of this new revision to the COI Contract Clause and its strict interpretation.

The Honorable Ivan Selin
April 30, 1992
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I have enclosed a copy of a letter sent to Mr. James Taylor of the NRC by Tom Trevino of SAIC. This elaborates on our position. I look forward to talking with you on Monday.

With best wishes and kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Melvin R. Laird", with a stylized, cursive flourish at the end.

Melvin R. Laird

The Honorable Ivan Selin
Chairman
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, Maryland 20852

Enclosure

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