



STATE OF VERMONT
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
PAVILION OFFICE BUILDING
MONTPELIER, VERMONT 05602
(802) 828-3333

August 31, 1982

Dr. Nunzio J. Palladino
Chairman
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C.

Dear Dr. Palladino:

As the Governor of Vermont, I have made a commitment to inform our citizens about shipments of high-level nuclear waste through Vermont, consistent with NRC regulations regarding disclosure (10 CFR 73.21). As I understand the relevant provisions of these regulations, we may not release "Safeguard Information" until ten days after a single shipment, or until ten days after the last shipment of a series.

In early July, my designee received "schedule information" from Nuclear Assurance Corporation regarding a series of shipments through Vermont. The document (copy attached) stated that there would be six shipments, and gave the estimated times and dates for each of those shipments. It also stated: "The last shipment in this series is estimated to be completed on August 17, 1982." The document referred to the requirements of regulation 73.21. If shipment number six was, in fact, the last shipment of this series, public disclosure could have been made on August 27.

We subsequently received additional schedule information, dated August 13, 1982, which suggests that the series will continue beyond August 17. This document (copy attached) states that there will be eleven shipments in the series and lists the relevant times and dates

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for shipments seven through eleven. The document concludes by saying: "The last shipment in this series is estimated to be enter (sic) Vermont on September 20, 1982."

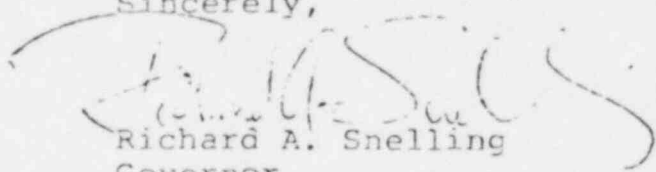
These documents are internally inconsistent. In addition, certain information has been released by Nuclear Assurance Corporation regarding this series, and this information has been reported publicly in Vermont.

I am, of course, obligated to abide by federal regulations governing these shipments. However, there is also an obligation on the part of the NRC and Nuclear Assurance Corporation to provide us with clear information. Accordingly, I request an explicit statement from the NRC regarding this matter. Are there two series, one terminating on August 17, the other terminating on September 20? Or is there just one series, which terminates on September 20? If there are two series, I would then be in a position to release information regarding shipments one through six; if there is just one series, I would not be able to release information until ten days after September 20.

In a telephone conversation with a member of my staff, an employee of the Safeguards Division of the Material Transport Branch of the NRC said that shipments one through eleven are part of a single series, although he declined to confirm his advice in writing. The contact person at Nuclear Assurance Corporation, on the other hand, was equivocal.

I await your advice on this matter and expect to hear from you very soon. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard A. Snelling
Governor

RAS:pm

~~SAFEGUARDS INFORMATION~~

SCHEDULE INFORMATION

8/13/82

The information described below is required by NRC regulations to be protected in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 73.21.

Total Number of shipments: 11

Estimated Time and Date of Departure from Origin (AECL):	Time	Date
Shipment 7:	04:00P	08/22/82
Shipment 8:	04:00P	08/29/82
Shipment 9:	04:00P	09/05/82
Shipment 10:	04:00P	09/12/82
Shipment 11:	04:00P	09/19/82

Estimated Time and Date of Entry into Vermont:	Time	Date
Shipment 7:	02:00A	08/23/82
Shipment 8:	02:00A	08/30/82
Shipment 9:	02:00A	09/06/82
Shipment 10:	02:00A	09/13/82
Shipment 11:	02:00A	09/20/82

Estimated Time and Date of Departure from Vermont:	Time	Date
Shipment 7:	08:30A	08/23/82
Shipment 8:	08:30A	08/30/82
Shipment 9:	08:30A	09/06/82
Shipment 10:	08:30A	09/13/82
Shipment 11:	08:30A	09/20/82

For this series of shipments, this schedule information must be protected in accordance with the provisions of 10 CFR 73.21 until 10 days after the last shipment in the series is complete. The last shipment in this series is estimated to be enter Vermont on September 20, 1982.

Note: Lines 35 and 36 may be used in the event the above schedule is revised.

~~SAFEGUARDS INFORMATION~~

SCHEDULE INFORMATION

Revision 1; 7/8/82

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The information described below is required by NRC regulations to be protected in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 73.21.

Number of shipments: 6

Estimated Time and Date of Departure from Origin (AECL):	Time	Date
Shipment 1:	07:00P	07/11/82
Shipment 2:	07:00P	07/18/82
Shipment 3:	07:00P	07/25/82
Shipment 4:	07:00P	08/01/82
Shipment 5:	07:00P	08/08/82
Shipment 6:	07:00P	08/15/82

Estimated Time and Date of Entry into Vermont:	Time	Date
Shipment 1:	04:30A	07/12/82
Shipment 2:	04:30A	07/19/82
Shipment 3:	04:30A	07/26/82
Shipment 4:	04:30A	08/02/82
Shipment 5:	04:30A	08/09/82
Shipment 6:	04:30A	08/16/82

Estimated Time and Date of Departure from Vermont:	Time	Date
Shipment 1:	09:30P	07/12/82
Shipment 2:	09:30P	07/29/82
Shipment 3:	09:30P	07/26/82
Shipment 4:	09:30P	08/02/82
Shipment 5:	09:30P	08/09/82
Shipment 6:	09:30P	08/16/82

For this series of shipments, this schedule information must be protected in accordance with the provisions of 10 CFR 73.21 until 10 days after the last shipment in the series is complete. The last shipment in this series is estimated to be completed on August 17, 1982.

Note: Lines 38 and 39 may be used in the event the above schedule is revised.