Department of Comprehensive Planning

Mission Statement: "To serve and protect the community by guiding development, enhancing the IVMCKETED environment, and promoting innovative ways to conserve natural resources." USARC

December 31, 1997



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OFFICE OF SECRETARY

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PROPOSED RULE PA 2
(62FR 60789)

Mr. John Hoyle
Secretary of the Commission
U.S. Market Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Subject:

RESOLUTION OF LICENSING SUPPORT SYSTEM (LSS) ISSUES AND DRAFT PROPOSED RULE, 10 C.F.R. PART 2, SUBPART J

Dear Mr. Hoyle:

This is in reference to the draft Rule, 10 C.F.R. Part 2, Subpart J, and related Licensing Support System (LSS) issues, that was released by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for review in November of 1997.

As you are aware, representatives from the affected units of local government (AULG), the State of Nevada and others as members of the LSS Advisory Review Panel (LSSARP) have had the opportunity both to participate in the negotiations that resulted in the original Subpart J Rule and, more recently, to consider options to implement the LSS.

With the deadline for comments fast approaching, I would like to propose several option for your consideration. The loss of funding for AULG for FY 1996 and 1997, of course, has severely hindered the ability of local governments to actively participate in Yucca Mountain activities, including issues associated with the LSS. Although AULG funding for FY 1998 has been restored, the January 27, 1998 deadline for comments on the proposed Rule will be difficult for most AULG to meet since most will be reconstituting their Programs in early January. For these reasons I am, therefore, requesting that the NRC give consideration to extending the current deadline 30 to 60 days to provide the AULG with additional time to review the proposed Rule.

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Also, because of the effort devoted by a number of parties both in the negotiations and implementation phases, I think it is also important to have a meeting of the LSSARP before the Rule is finalized. Because of the importance of the issues to Nevadans, I would suggest having the meeting in Nevada (either Reno or Las Vegas). One option would be to schedule a LSSARP meeting around a planned AULG/DOE meeting on Friday, January 23, 1998. Realizing that the time frame is tight perhaps the LSSARP could meet on Thursday, January 22, 1998. I would be glad to assist in arranging for a room in the Clark County Government Center for the meeting.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. I would be happy to discuss this further with you at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Dennis Bechel Manager

cc: Affected Unit of Local Government Representatives Richard B. Holmes

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