



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

November 4, 1999

Bob Kinghorn, Area Director
SENDS
2507 Schneider Ave.
Auburn, NE 68305

Dear Mr. Kinghorn:

I am writing to invite you to participate in a public meeting designed to solicit input from members of the public about the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) revised reactor oversight process. The NRC staff has revised its oversight process, including how it inspects licensee performance, to apply more objective, timely, safety-significant criteria in assessing safety performance at nuclear power plants. The revised process is being pilot-tested at nine plants including the Cooper plant in your local area.

Our meeting will be held between 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on November 30, 1999, at the Arbor Manor Inn in Auburn, NE. The purpose of our meeting will be to determine the perception from representatives of the public in the vicinity of the Cooper plant regarding the NRC's revised reactor oversight process.

The meeting will be conducted in a roundtable format. What this means is that you and the other participants will be able to discuss your views and ask questions of the agency regarding the new program with NRC managers and inspectors. We are seeking your informed candid remarks and insights in order for us to identify potential improvements and to gain the public's perception of our new program. Individuals invited to participate in the meeting consist of leaders from the local community, including public officials and representatives from public interest groups.

I look forward to your participation at the meeting. To help you prepare for the meeting, I am enclosing a booklet, New NRC Reactor Inspection and Oversight Program, which briefly describes the new program. Additional information may be found on our WEB site, www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/overview.html. I have enclosed a copy of this WEB site menu in order to assist you in locating information. (If you do not have access to a computer connected to the Internet, please check those items on the menu you would like to review, and send the menu form to Mr. August Spector of my staff in the enclosed envelope. He will mail the requested materials directly to you.) I have also included a list of questions which we would like to discuss at the meeting. Although you may have other areas of interest, *we intend to focus discussion at this meeting only on the public's perception and understanding of the revised reactor oversight process.*

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B. Kinghorn

- 2 -

Please let me know your interest and your availability to participate in this meeting by returning the enclosed response form as soon as possible. You may also contact me or August Spector of my staff by calling 800-368-5642 or by email (WMD@NRC.GOV or AKS@NRC.GOV).

Sincerely,

151

William M. Dean
Inspection Program Branch
Division of Inspection Program Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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November 4, 1999

Brad Lockhart, President
Auburn Optimist Club
Route 2
Auburn, NE 68305

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