



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

April 21, 1999

OFFICE OF THE
GENERAL COUNSEL

G. Paul Bollwerk, III, Chairman
Administrative Judge
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

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Washington, DC 20555

In the Matter of
Private Fuel Storage L.L.C.
(Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation)
Docket No. 72-22-ISFSI

Dear Administrative Judges:

As I indicated during the telephone conference call of March 23, 1999, the NRC Staff (Staff) has determined, in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Interior's Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM), that it will conduct additional scoping meetings related to the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in this proceeding. These additional scoping meetings are being conducted with respect to the request for BIA approval of the lease between Private Fuel Storage, LLC (PFS) and the Skull Valley Band of Goshute Indians, and PFS' August 28, 1998, submittal of a revision to its license application, proposing to construct a rail line over BLM-managed lands to transport spent fuel to its site. The additional scoping meetings will be held in Salt Lake City and Tooele, Utah, on April 29, 1999. Details concerning the time, location and topics for these meetings are contained in a Federal Register Notice published on April 14, 1999 (64 Fed. Reg. 18451).

In addition, as I indicated during the conference call of March 23, the Staff intends to issue a second round of Requests for Additional Information (RAIs) on environmental topics, related in part to PFS' rail line proposal, which will be issued upon the conclusion of the scoping process. As a result of the additional scoping meetings and RAIs, the Staff expects that the Draft EIS will be published in March 2000 and the Final EIS will be published in February 2001. These projected publication dates would result in an extension of the current hearing schedule for environmental (Group III) contentions of approximately four months.

Sincerely,

Sherwin E. Turk
Counsel for NRC Staff

cc: Service List