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August 29, 2002

Mr. Mike Lesar
Chief, Rules and Directives Branch
Division of Administrative Services
Office of Administration, Mail Stop T-6D59
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

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Rules and Directives
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USNRC

Attn: Tim Harris

Dear Mr. Lesar,

On behalf of Greenpeace International, I am hereby requesting an extension of the August 30 deadline for comments on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility.

Given the lack of availability of two key documents, the final Environmental Report and Construction Authorization Request, the ability to make pertinent comments is limited. Also, as NRC has scheduled meetings in the middle of September to discuss the supplemental ER and how the draft EIS will be affected given changes by the Department of Energy to the plutonium disposition program, it makes no sense to close the comment deadline before those meetings take place.

Additionally, as the Department of Energy has failed to provide a clear listing of plutonium now bound for disposition via MOX, plutonium which had earlier been scheduled for immobilization, it is difficult to comment on purification and waste streams issues associated with unknown material.

Thus, I request that the comment period be extended at least one month, and preferably until after DOE clearly states what plutonium is bound for which disposition method and what the impurities are of plutonium from Rocky Flats, Hanford and Lawrence Livermore and other sites which DOE aims to purify and fabricate into MOX. Likewise, DOE has failed to discuss waste stream management of MOX waste at the Savannah River Site, raising questions both about what kind of waste from the MOX plant can be managed but also how that will be done.

Thank you for taking my request into consideration.

Sincerely,

Tom Clements

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