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212 West End Boulevard
Quakertown, Pennsylvania 18951

July 19, 2003

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Mr. John Kinneman
Branch Chief
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, PA 19406-1415

Re: CFC Logistics

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is a self-explanatory editorial from our local newspaper, (Daily Intelligencer, Bucks County, Pa.) 7-18-03 requesting the NRC to support the Milford Residents and the Concerned Citizens of Milford Twp., to have a public hearing on the CFC Logistics irradiator facility in Milford Twp., Pennsylvania.

Would you please forward the additional newspaper editorial to your Washington, D.C. Office for consideration with our lawyer, Robert Sugarman's request for a public hearing.

Respectfully,



Jon A. Holznagel
Concerned Citizen of
Milford, Inc.

The Intelligencer

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Tell us more

A hearing is needed on the irradiation plan.

Several hundred Upper Bucks residents peppered federal regulators closely about the safety of a proposed irradiation operation in Milford on Thursday.

They demanded answers from officials with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to questions about whether the irradiation system proposed by CFC Logistics Inc. could be protected from terrorist attacks, whether an accident could threaten the underground water supply and whether radioactive cobalt-60 represented a threat to the health of neighbors.

It was an example of what is right about American-style democracy, where private citizens are free to put the agents of their government on the spot and demand to be heard. In the end, most of those who attended did not appear to have changed their minds and remained against the proposal.

The NRC, which will ultimately decide whether CFC Logistics will be allowed to operate the irradiator at its cold-storage warehouse plant near the Northeast Extension to the Pennsylvania Turnpike, could issue the permit within days. The NRC cannot — and should not — deny the permit solely on grounds that there is substantial opposition from neighbors. The agency, in fact, must issue the permit if it finds that the proposal meets federal standards for safety and security.

However, we agree with opponents who have urged the NRC to conduct a formal hearing on the company's plans before it grants the permit. Such a delay would be both reasonable and wise.

Opponents want the chance to present evidence that could call into question the safety and security of the CFC Logistics operation. Such questions, particularly about possible acts of terrorism or sabotage of an industrial operation that uses radioactive material, are more relevant than ever in a post-Sept. 11 world.

To date, we have been impressed with CFC's proposal. Irradiation is a proven technology that has been used for decades to make herbs, medical supplies and other products germ-free, thus reducing illnesses and death from dangerous bacteria strains. In addition, CFC's design, which encases the cobalt-60 material in a water-filled, stainless steel well appears to be safer than scores of other irradiators already in operation around the country, including several within a few hours' drive of Milford.

However, a delay to allow for a formal hearing on the proposal would go a long way toward convincing residents that their concerns have been adequately heard and addressed by the government experts who are charged with making sure that nuclear material is used safely and wisely.

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