

October 14, 2003

Mr. John H. Ellis
President
Sequoyah Fuels Corporation
P.O. Box 610
Gore, OK 74435

SUBJECT: OCTOBER 1, 2003 PUBLIC MEETING

Dear Mr. Ellis:

On October 1, 2003, a public meeting was held at the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) headquarters in Rockville, Maryland, to discuss several issues related to cleanup and reclamation of Sequoyah Fuels Corporation's (SFC's) former uranium conversion facility near Gore, Oklahoma. Enclosed please find a summary of the meeting.

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact me, either by telephone at (301) 415-6629, or by e-mail at mhf1@nrc.gov.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Sincerely,

/RA/

Myron H. Fliegel
Fuel Cycle Facilities Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety
and Safeguards
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No. 40-8027
License No. SUB-1010

Enclosure: Meeting Summary

cc: William Andrews, USGS
Patricia Ballard, NRMNC
Michael Broderick, OK DEQ
Kelly Burch, Esq., OK AG
Will Focht, OSU
Merritt Youngdeer, BIA
Troy Poteete, Cherokee Nation
Alvin Gutterman, Esq., Morgan Lewis & Bockius
Mr. John H. Ellis

Pat Gwin, Cherokee Nation
Craig Harlin, SFC
Jim Harris, USACE
Michael Hebert, EPA
Kathy Peter, USGS
Charles Scott, USFWS

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*See previous concurrence

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NAME	MFliegel*		BGarrett		RNelson	
DATE	10/10/03		10/14/03		10/14/03	

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Sequoyah Fuels Corporation Meeting Summary

Date/Time of Meeting: October 1, 2003, 8:30 a.m. EST

Location of Meeting: Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Two White Flint North
Room T9F5

Agenda: Attachment 1

Attendees: Attachment 2

Summary:

The meeting was held to discuss several issues related to Sequoyah Fuels Corporation's (SFC's) proposed reclamation of its site near Gore, Oklahoma. The first issue raised by U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff was the design of the proposed disposal cell. NRC staff raised the concern of potential leakage from the sides of the cell due to the possible buildup of water in the cell. SFC discussed the design of the cell, including the dikes on the sides, the liner system, and the leachate collection system. SFC committed to provide further information to NRC. SFC will describe storm management and water additions during waste placement, and will provide an analysis of water drainage and the maximum level of free water at the bottom of the cell.

The next issue discussed was the location of the cell on the site. NRC identified several potential problems that could result from building the disposal cell in a previously contaminated area of the site. These include the difficulty of designing a ground water monitoring system that will be able to distinguish new contamination (as a result of cell leakage) from existing contamination and the need to double handle contaminated material excavated from the footprint of the cell and the implications with respect to keeping doses as low as reasonably achievable (ALARA) and costs. Additionally, NRC pointed out that the design for interim storage of the excavated contaminated material has not been provided. SFC discussed ground water monitoring. SFC also stated that the contaminated material to be excavated from the footprint of the cell at its proposed location represents less than five percent of the contaminated material to be disposed of in the cell and that a portion of the cell's footprint is over an area that is not contaminated. SFC is considering a plan that would have that portion of the cell constructed first and used for disposal of contaminated material removed in the construction the remainder of the cell. That would avoid double handling of contaminated material and the need for interim storage of contaminated material. SFC will make a decision on the location of the disposal cell and revise the reclamation plan to provide further information and details.

The final issue discussed is SFC's plan to dewater raffinate sludge currently in three Clarifier Basins and store the dewatered sludge on the South Yellowcake Pad. In its September 19, 2003 letter, SFC stated that its license allows it to proceed without further NRC approval. NRC staff identified several proposed activities that did not appear to be covered in the reviews that NRC has performed in the past and thus concluded that SFC would need to obtain NRC approval before proceeding. NRC will respond to SFC's September 19th letter and identify those activities in the SFC plan that are permitted by the license and those that are not.

The meeting concluded at 11:00 am.

Attachments:

1. Meeting agenda
2. Meeting attendance list



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
HEADQUARTERS

MEETING ATTENDANCE FORM

Subject Sequoyah Fuels Corporation Public Meeting

Date: October 1, 2003 Location: Nuclear Regulatory Commission

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION LEGIBLY

NAME (e.g. J.B. Doe)	COMPANY TITLE (V.P. Nuclear Operations)	PHONE NUMBER (Area code) XXX=XXXX
Mike Fliegel	NRC	(301) 415-6629
Louis Miller	MFG	(970) 223-9000
Clint Strachan	MFG	(970) 223-9600
Craig Harlin	Sequoyah Fuels	(918) 489-5511
Al Gutterman	Morgan, Lewis	(202) 739-5468
John Ellis	Sequoyah Fuels	(918) 489-5511 x 13
Christine Schulte	NRC	(301) 415-6698
Bill von Till	NRC	(301) 415-6251
Gary Janosko	NRC	(301) 415-7244
Don Palmrose	ATL Int'l	(301) 515-6769
Abe Zeitoun	ATL	(301) 515-6770
John H. Lusher	NRC	(301) 415-7694
Marian Zobler	NRC	(301) 415-1570
Bob Nelson	NRC	(301) 415-7298
Maria Schwartz	NRC	(301) 415-1888
Mike Broderick	OK DEQ	(415) 702-5155