

January 5, 2005

Mr. Patrick L. Paquin
Duratek
140 Stoneridge Drive
Columbia, SC 29210

SUBJECT: INVITATION TO LICENSING PROCESS CONFERENCE

Dear Mr. Paquin:

The staff of the Spent Fuel Project Office (SFPO), U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, cordially invites you to attend its Licensing Process Conference, to be held on February 8, 2005, at the Two White Flint North Auditorium, located at NRC Headquarters in Rockville, MD. The purpose of this conference is to discuss SFPO's licensing process, provide licensees and stakeholders with an overview of SFPO's latest guidelines for its interactions with applicants, and provide attendees ample opportunity to provide feedback and suggestions on these efforts. This conference is part of the NRC staff's initiative to continuously improve our licensing process for 10 CFR Part 71 and Part 72 licensing activities.

As discussed in the enclosed agenda, we plan to host a session during which NRC staff and industry representatives will discuss lessons learned from the licensing process. The purpose of this session will be for NRC staff and our applicants to discuss past licensing action experiences, such as new applications for licenses, certificates of compliance, or amendments to these. We hope that the session will help us identify those practices that improved the process and could be used for future licensing actions, and those practices that impaired or delayed the process and should be avoided. Because your organization's interactions with SFPO have been numerous, we believe that your past experiences and practices in the licensing process will be meaningful to the discussion. Therefore, we would like to invite you to participate as a presenter in this session. Each presenter will be asked to give a brief (10-15 minutes) presentation that discusses examples of particular licensing actions, offers insights on the process, and suggests possible improvements. Additional information about this session and guidelines for preparing the presentation are enclosed.

The conference is scheduled to start promptly at 8:00 a.m. (ET) and end at 4:30 p.m. (ET). Enclosed you will also find further information on the topics that will be discussed and contact information for registration. Once again, we look forward to your participation.

Sincerely,

/RA/

E. William Brach, Director
Spent Fuel Project Office
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosures: 1. Conference Agenda
2. Registration Instructions
3. Travel Information
4. Presentation Guidelines

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*see previous concurrence

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