January 16, 2008

ALL AGREEMENT STATES, MICHIGAN, NEW JERSEY, PENNSYLVANIA, VIRGINIA, NON-AGREEMENT STATES, STATE LIAISON OFFICERS

NRC TO HOLD WORKSHOP ON THE FUTURE OF URANIUM CONVERSION/DECONVERSION FACILITIES (FSME-08-007)

Purpose: This letter is to inform you that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is holding a workshop on February 22, 2008, with stakeholders to seek comment on the proposed quantity thresholds of uranium hexafluoride and uranium tetrafluoride either used for, or derived from, the conversion of uranium oxide to uranium hexafluoride and/or for the deconversion of depleted uranium hexafluoride to an oxide.

Background: In an October 10 Staff Requirements Memorandum (SRM) (http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/commission/srm/2007/2007-0146srm.pdf) NRC Commissioners directed the staff to pursue a rulemaking to modify 10 CFR Part 40 to impose specific, risk-informed requirements analogous to those in 10 CFR Part 70, Subpart H on both current and future conversion/deconversion facilities. The Commission also directed the staff to conduct a workshop with stakeholders to invite comments on “the appropriateness” of the proposed quantity thresholds before developing the proposed rule (http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/commission/srm/2007/2007-0146srm.pdf). The quantity thresholds proposed by the staff were 10,000 kilograms of uranium hexafluoride or uranium tetrafluoride, and/or 1,000 pounds of hydrogen fluoride as the limits that would dictate regulatory oversight by NRC.

Content: The workshop will consist of a presentation by NRC staff on the proposed scope of the rulemaking and a detailed explanation of the methodology that went in to the staff recommendations. After that, stakeholders are encouraged to present their views and recommendations on the proposals. The workshop is scheduled for the location, times, and date provided below:

Friday, February 22, 2008 U.S. NRC Headquarters
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. TWFN Auditorium
11545 Rockville Pike
Rockville, Maryland 20852
If you or members of your staff are interested in attending the upcoming workshop in person, or are interested in attending by teleconference, please pre-register by Friday, February 15, 2008, by e-mail at MGR@nrc.gov. Requests to present materials should be e-mailed to MGR@nrc.gov as soon as possible. Related meeting information can be found on the NRC public Website at http://www.nrc.gov/public-involve/public-meetings/index.cfm.

Any questions about this correspondence, should be directed to the point of contact below.

POINT OF CONTACT: Michael Raddatz    INTERNET: MGR@nrc.gov
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/RA/
Robert J. Lewis, Acting Director
Division of Materials Safety and State Agreements
Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs
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