

June 19, 2015

Mr. Paul Lorenzini
5905 SE Columbia Way, Unit 103
Vancouver, WA 98661

SUBJECT: REQUEST TO ESTABLISH AND REQUIRE THE ENFORCEMENT OF
STANDARDS FOR THE CONDUCT AT PUBLIC MEETINGS

Dear Mr. Lorenzini:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) considers public involvement in, and information about, its activities to be a cornerstone of strong, fair regulation of the nuclear industry. Therefore, we seek to provide members of the public with meaningful opportunities to participate in information exchanges that lead to mutual understanding of the NRC regulatory processes.

We regret that the behavior on the part of some audience members detracted from the NRC's goals for public engagement at the February 19, 2015, public meeting on the Vermont Yankee (VY) Nuclear Power Station's Post Shutdown Decommissioning Activities Report. The NRC strives to allow members of the public to express their views and to create an environment in which others can gain information without distractions. When disruptions occur, the NRC has limited options. Our main choices are to ask someone to leave voluntarily or to end the meeting early. NRC security staff did ask Mr. Sachs to leave, and he did, though he later returned. In this case, we determined that continuing the meeting was appropriate.

As an organization that stresses continuous improvement, we will learn from the VY public meeting and refine our meeting protocols. In that regard, the NRC has assembled a task group to complete a comprehensive look at our public meeting policies, processes, and guidance. The NRC Executive Director for Operations presented the task group's recommendations to Chairman Burns in May. A copy of this memo is enclosed. As that work unfolds, the experience at the VY public meeting will be taken into consideration.

The ultimate goal is to develop a more structured approach for the public to participate, comment, ask questions and learn; and to allow the NRC to more effectively deal with those who disrupt meetings. Please know that we value your engagement with the NRC regulatory process and we will seriously consider the points made in your letter as we move forward.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Catherine Haney, Director
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

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Sincerely,

Catherine Haney, Director
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

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