

Mr. Patrick M. Sears
Box 13
Fairfield, Pennsylvania 17320

January 27, 1997

Dear Mr. Sears:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with an update on the status of the 10 CFR 2.206 Petition you submitted on August 19, 1996. By letter dated September 24, 1996, Mr. William T. Russell, Director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, acknowledged receipt of your 10 CFR 2.206 Petition.

In accordance with NRC Management Directive 8.11, "Review Process for 10 CFR 2.206 Petitions," it is the staff's goal to issue a Director's Decision or Partial Director's Decision within 120 days from the date of issuance of the acknowledgement letter. The Directive also states that the Petition Manager is responsible for ensuring that the Petitioner is notified at least every 60 days of the status of the Petition, or more frequently if significant actions occur. The NRC has not rendered a Director's Decision within the expected period, nor has anyone provided you with the status of your Petition at 60-day intervals. I apologize on behalf of the NRC on both counts.

I have been designated as the Petition Manager for your Petition, and therefore your primary contact, effective January 15, 1997. Currently, we expect to complete a Director's Decision by April 20, 1997. Should you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-1451, or at internet:pst@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Peter S. Tam, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate II-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Peter S. Tam", is written over a horizontal line.

Peter S. Tam, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate II-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation