



September 5, 2018

Mr. Craig Erlanger  
Director, Division of Fuel Cycle Safety, Safety and Safeguards  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

**Reopening of Environmental Assessment on License Extension for Westinghouse Nuclear Fuel Facility  
– License No. SNM-1107 and Docket ID NRC-2015-0039 – and NRC’s Agreement to Hold Public Meeting**

Dear Mr. Erlanger:

This letter is confirm the NRC’s commitment to reopening the Environmental Assessment prepared in conjunction with consideration of possible extension of the operating license for the Westinghouse nuclear fuel facility in Columbia, South Carolina and to hold a community meeting on a new draft EA.

At a public community meeting in Lower Richland on August 30, Mr. Brian Smith, Deputy Director Division of Fuel Cycle Safety, Safeguards & Environmental Review, informed the attendees at the meeting, called by a Richland County commissioner, that the EA would be reopened and that a public meeting would be held.

Given this new stance by the NRC in evaluating the license extension for the Westinghouse Columbia Fuel Fabrication Facility, it is my understanding that the following things will take place:

1. A notice will be published in the Federal Register reopening the Environmental Assessment and presenting a date for a public meeting (or meetings);
2. A new draft Environmental Assessment will be prepared, based on new information gathered by the NRC, or presented by Westinghouse to the NRC and that concerns expressed by members of the public after a recent leak of uranium from the facility will be taken into account;
3. The draft EA will be released and the public will have ample opportunity to comment in writing and at the public meeting(s);
4. A final EA may be prepared, if warranted, and if such a final document is released it could be used as the basis for the decision to prepare an Environmental Impact Assessment; and
5. At least until final environmental documents are prepared, consideration of a license extension for the facility for any period of time, including the 40 years requested, will be placed on hold.

If my understanding of next steps to be taken is in error thank you for your clarification in writing.

Sincerely,

Tom Clements

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