

Western Interstate Energy Board/ WINB

February 22, 1995

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*Douglas C. Larson
Executive Director*

Allen Benson
Operational Activities Team Leader
U.S. DOE/OCRWM (RW-45)
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Mr. Benson:

On behalf of the Western Interstate Energy Board's High-Level Radioactive Waste Committee we are writing to suggest that the Department of Energy extend the deadline for commenting on the Notice of Inquiry regarding Safe Transportation and Emergency Response Training, Technical Assistance, and Funding (60 FR 99; January 6, 1995)

WIEB's High-Level Radioactive Waste Committee, the Midwestern High-Level Radioactive Waste Committee, and the Southern States Energy Board's Advisory Committee on Radioactive Materials Transportation have worked with DOE for several years to develop procedures for implementing Section 180(c) of the NWPA. These groups will convene a joint meeting with the newly formed Northeastern High-Level Radioactive Waste Transportation Task Force on April 11-12 in Chicago. Separate regional meetings will be held by committees on April 10 and 13.


Because states are one of the primary stakeholders to be affected by DOE's implementation of Section 180(c), WIEB's High-Level Radioactive Waste Committee is requesting a 45-day extension of the Notice of Intent comment period. Such an extension would allow the regions to discuss 180(c) policy both at the joint meeting and during their individual meetings. Extending the deadline to May 18 would also give the Northeastern task force – whose inaugural meeting falls one week after the current deadline – an opportunity to comment on this important issue.

WIEB recognizes and supports DOE's desire to put the development of 180(c) policy and procedures on the "fast track". We believe, however, that extending the comment for this short period of time will only improve the quality of the input provided by the four regional committees, which, collectively, represent a significant group of stakeholders in terms of number, expertise, and tested interest.

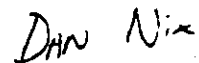
Mr. Allen Benson
February 16, 1995
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Thank you for considering this request. The Committee looks forward to your reply. If you have any questions, please contact Michele Halseth at (303) 573-8910.

Sincerely,



Joe Strolin, Co-Chair
High-Level Radioactive Waste Committee



Dan Nix, Co-Chair
High-Level Radioactive Waste Comm

Section 180(c) of the Act. Feb. 7/95

I have a question
on Section 180(c) of the Act.

Has the funding for
the Secretary of Energy
been acquired for technical
assistance & funding for
training?

Rec: 2/28

J. Clark
2410 S.E. Bay Point Rd, #63
Vancouver, WA
98684