

Southern States Energy Board

3



February 9, 1995.

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

Dear Mr. Benson:

On behalf of the Southern States Energy Board (SSEB) Advisory Committee on Radioactive Materials Transportation, I am writing to request that the United States Department of Energy (DOE) 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) from April 3, 1995, to May 18, 1995, representing a 45-day extension period.

As you know, the SSEB Advisory Committee on Radioactive Materials Transportation, in conjunction with the Western Interstate Energy Board's High-Level Radioactive Waste Committee and the Council of State Governments Midwestern Office's High-Level Radioactive Waste Committee, has worked with DOE to develop procedures for implementing Section 180(c) of the Nuclear Waste Policy Act. These high-level waste committees and the soon-to-be established Council of State Governments Northeastern Office's high-level waste transportation committee are planning a joint meeting for April 11-13, 1995, in Chicago to discuss issues related to the civilian radioactive waste management program.

Because states are one of the primary stakeholders to be affected by DOE's implementation of Section 180(c), an extension of the comment period would allow this important issue to be discussed jointly and individually by the high-level waste committees. In addition, the extension would give the new Northeastern Office's high-level waste transportation committee, whose inaugural meeting falls one week after the current deadline, an opportunity to comment on this issue.

While we recognize DOE's desire to expeditiously move forward with Section 180(c) implementation, we believe that extending the comment period provides an opportunity to

3091
Governor
Lake
Drive

June 400

Norfolk
Georgia
30070

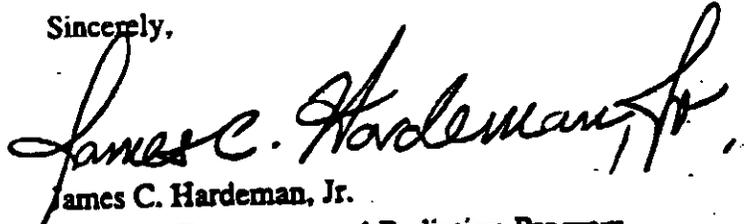
404 240-7700
FAX 404 240-7420



improve the quality of the input by allowing the four regional committees to establish a dialogue encompassing a significant group of stakeholders.

Thank you for considering this request. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (404) 362-2675 or Ms. Beth Fulmer at (404) 242-7712.

Sincerely,



James C. Hardeman, Jr.

Manager, Environmental Radiation Program
Georgia Department of Natural Resources, and
Chairman, Southern States Energy Board Advisory
Committee on Radioactive Materials Transportation

JRH/eaf