

ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

2125 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6115

Majority (202) 225-2927
Minority (202) 225-3641

May 26, 2015

The Honorable Jeffrey S. Merrifield
Partner
Pillsbury Law Firm
1200 Seventeenth Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Mr. Merrifield:

Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Energy and Power on Friday, April 29, 2016, to testify at the hearing entitled "H.R. 4979, the Advanced Nuclear Technology Development Act of 2016 and H.R. _____, Nuclear Utilization of Keynote Energy Policies Act."

During the hearing, Members asked you to provide additional information for the record, and you indicated that you would provide that information. Descriptions of the requested information are provided in the attached document. The format of your responses should be as follows: (1) the name of the Member whose request you are addressing, (2) the complete text of the request you are addressing in bold, and (3) your answer to that request in plain text.

To facilitate the printing of the hearing record, please respond to these requests with a transmittal letter by the close of business on June 9, 2016. Your responses should be mailed to Will Batson, Legislative Clerk, Committee on Energy and Commerce, 2125 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 and e-mailed in Word format to Will.Batson@mail.house.gov.

Thank you again for your time and effort preparing and delivering testimony before the Subcommittee.

Sincerely,



Ed Whitfield
Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy and Power

cc: The Honorable Bobby Rush, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Energy and Power

Attachment

Additional Questions for the Record

The Honorable Ed Whitfield

1. During your tenure at the NRC, you recommended the Commission reconsider requiring a mandatory hearing for new plant licensing. Will you tell us why you made that recommendation?
 - A. Would the draft legislative provision limit transparency or public stakeholder existing rights to file contentions on licensing actions?

The Honorable Michael Doyle

1. Commissioner Merrifield, section 7 of Rep. Kinzinger's discussion draft sets a 12 month deadline for the draft environmental impact statement, and a 24 month cap on a complete review for the technical review and final environmental impact statement.
 - A. Do you think these times for review are appropriate?
 - B. Do you have any concerns that this could jeopardize the safety of these plants, or their potential impact on the environment?
 - C. If the NRC signaled it needed additional time to review the application, what would happen?
2. Commissioner Merrifield, like you, I applaud the NRC for its current efforts under project Aim to right size the agency. I also recognize that the NRC must stay true to its mission of protecting people and the environment. As someone who lived through very similar efforts to make the agency more efficient, can you comment on whether further efficiencies are feasible and desirable?
 - A. Do you feel that Project Aim and further efforts on that path would not compromise the safety the NRC has so diligently protected?