Marie Elaina Viel LTX Corporation University Avenue Westwood, MA 02090-2306 Letter of Comment No: 4991 File Reference: 1102-100

June 22, 2004

Director of Major Projects—File Reference No. 1102-100

Robert H. Herz, Chairman Order Department, Financial Accounting Standards Board 401 Merritt 7, P.O. Box 5116 Norwalk, CT 06856-5116

Dear Chairman,

First, let me take a moment to thank you for considering my opinion on the important issue of stock options as a form of employee compensation. A company's ability to offer stock options allows that company to provide their employees a valuable incentive to help themselves by helping the company to succeed. Thanks to stock option programs, employees know that the company's success is their success as well. Stock options keep employees pulling hard in the same direction. They are wonderful motivational took and a huge benefit to the American economy when they are exercised. They are a fiscally responsible and easy way for an employee to prepare for his or her own future. I know that I have come to depend upon stock options from the company where I am employed and I do not want to lose them!

Without adding anything in the way of new corporate governance protection, the FASB accounting standard on stock options would inflate the cost of employee compensation plans for every company that uses stock options. I don't believe there is any good reason to declare stock options as an expense as soon as they are issued. The end result could very well be to eliminate stock options as a broad-based employee benefit. That would be a terrible loss to American economic growth. Please don't let that happen.

I strongly believe stock options need to remain available to any company and should remain the valuable incentive they are now without any changes to the current regulations. Therefore, I am asking your support in defeating this proposal by the FASB to mandate the expensing of stock options. Thank you.

Sincerely, Mani Elecura Ver

Marie Elaina Viel

cc: Senator Edward Kennedy Senator John Kerry