



FOIA/PA REQUEST  
Case No: 2001-0324  
Date Recd: 7-26-2001  
Action Off: Pool  
Related Cases: \_\_\_\_\_

## Nuclear Information and Resource Service

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July 26, 2001

Branch Chief  
Division of Freedom of Information and Publication Services  
Office of Administration  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555

BY FAX: (301) 415-5130

**Follow-up FOIA Request Regarding Differing Professional View on D.C. Cook  
Reactor Containment Integrity**

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of Nuclear Information and Resource Service (NIRS), and pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552(b), et. seq., I hereby request that you make available copies of all documents in the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's possession which describe or discuss:

- 1) All documents subsequently docketed since August 22, 2000 to date regarding the differing professional view (DPV) filed by Mr. Ross Landsman on June 06, 2000 focused on a degraded fan room wall in containment at the D.C. Cook nuclear generating station.
- 2) All documents regarding a Differing Professional Opinion (DPO) arising out of the June 06, 2000 DPV filed by Mr. Ross Landsman on D.C. Cook containment integrity.

This request covers but is not limited to all draft and final reports, correspondence, memoranda, notes, records of telephone contacts, electronic communications including fax transmissions and Email, or other written records, whether in paper or computer files.

Pursuant to this request, please provide all documents and communications prepared or utilized by, in the possession of, or routed through the NRC related to items 1 and 2.

For any portion of the request that you deem appropriate to deny, NIRS requests that you describe the information that is denied, identify the exception to the FOIA on which you rely, and explain how that exception applies to the withheld information.

Pursuant to NRC regulations at 10 CFR 9.41, NIRS requests that any searching and copying fees incurred as a result of this search be waived, and provides the following information in response to the eight criteria listed in Section 9.41(b):

**1) Purpose of request:**

The purpose of the request is to gather information on the integrity of the reactor containment at D.C. Cook nuclear generating station. The requested information is currently not available in the NRC's Public Document Room and is not publicly posted on the NRC's Agency-wide Document Access and Management System (ADAMS).

**2) Extent to which NIRS will extract and analyze the substantive content of the records:**

NIRS is qualified to make use of the requested information. The staff has demonstrated the ability to interpret information and communicate that information in a form comprehensible to the general public. Members of the NIRS staff have published articles in such national journals as The Nation, The Progressive, Nuclear Times, Newsday, TIME and Bulletin of Atomic Scientists. NIRS is quoted as a reliable source of information on nuclear issues in newspapers across the country, including such papers as the Wall Street Journal, New York Times, Washington Post, and San Francisco Chronicle, and the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

NIRS has a working relationship with attorneys, physicists, nuclear engineers and other respected professionals who contribute to the full understanding of technical records relating to reactor containment integrity.

**3) Nature of the specific activity or research in which the records will be used and NIRS's qualifications to utilize the information for the intended use in such a way that it will contribute to public understanding:**

NIRS seeks the requested information solely to contribute to and help shape the public debate on public health and safety. NIRS intends to use the information in order to advance the concerns for public understanding of reactor containment integrity.

**4) Likely impact on the public's understanding of the subject as compared to the level of understanding of the subject prior to disclosure:**

NIRS seeks to translate the requested information into the layperson's understanding of containment integrity issues at nuclear power stations. The added attention will increase the public understanding and further a national debate on containment integrity standards.

5) **Size and nature of the public to whose understanding a contribution will be made:**

NIRS has an active subscribing membership of over 1500 throughout the United States. Several thousand additional members periodically receive mailings from NIRS. NIRS provides resource material to electronic and print media outlets with very broad outreach to a safety conscious audience. Additionally, NIRS has a web site ([www.nirsnet.org](http://www.nirsnet.org)) which receives on average of 1500 visitors per day where postings on this issue will be made available.

6) **Means of distribution of the requested information:**

NIRS will use its own newsletter publication The Nuclear Monitor and our media contacts in both the electronic and print media outlets to provide very broad outreach to the safety conscious public. Additionally, NIRS will post information on its web site ([www.nirsnet.org](http://www.nirsnet.org)) which receives on average of 1500 visitors per day.

7) **Whether free access to information will be provided:**

NIRS will provide the information without charge to all members of the public. Information prepared from the FOIA requested will be posted on the web site for downloading free of charge. NIRS will also provide information to traditional media outlets without charge.

8) **No commercial interest by NIRS or any other party:**

NIRS has no commercial interest in obtaining the requested information. This information is provided to all public requests without charge. The sole interest of NIRS is to promote a public safety policy debate on reactor containment integrity.

Sincerely,



Paul Gunter, Director  
Reactor Watchdog Project