

November 1, 2001

Mr. Glen A. Watford, Manager  
Fuel Engineering Services  
Global Nuclear Fuel  
P.O. Box 780  
Wilmington, NC 28402

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR WITHHOLDING INFORMATION FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

Dear Mr. Watford:

By letter dated September 25, 2001, and affidavit dated October 1, 2001, you submitted Topical Reports NEDC-32851P, Revision 2, "GEXL14 Correlation for GE14 Fuel," and NEDC-32464P, Revision 2, "GEXL10 Correlation for GE12 Fuel with Inconel Spacer," and requested that they be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Section 2.790. A non-proprietary version of the topical reports was not provided for placement in the NRC public document room and the Agencywide Documents Access and Management Systems Publicly Available Records System (ADAMS PARS) Library.

The affidavit stated that the submitted information should be considered exempt from mandatory public disclosure for the following reasons:

- a. Information that discloses a process, method, or apparatus, including supporting data and analyses, where prevention of its use by GNF-A's competitors without license from GNF-A constitutes a competitive economic advantage over other companies.
- b. Information which, if used by a competitor, would reduce his expenditure of resources or improve his competitive position in the design, manufacture, shipment, installation, assurance of quality, or licensing of a similar product.

We have reviewed your application and the material in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 2.790 and, on the basis of your statements, have determined that the submitted information sought to be withheld contains proprietary commercial information and should be withheld from public disclosure.

Therefore, Topical Reports NEDC-32851P, Revision 2, "GEXL14 Correlation for GE14 Fuel," and NEDC-32464P, Revision 2, "GEXL10 Correlation for GE12 Fuel with Inconel Spacer," marked as proprietary, will be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790(b)(5) and Section 103(b) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

Withholding from public inspection shall not affect the right, if any, of persons properly and directly concerned to inspect the documents. If the need arises, we may send copies of this information to our consultants working in this area. We will, of course, ensure that the consultants have signed the appropriate agreements for handling proprietary information.

If the basis for withholding this information from public inspection should change in the future such that the information could then be made available for public inspection, you should promptly notify the NRC. You also should understand that the NRC may have cause to review this determination in the future, for example, if the scope of a Freedom of Information Act request includes your information. In all review situations, if the NRC makes a determination adverse to the above, you will be notified in advance of any public disclosure.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, I may be reached at (301) 415-3016.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Robert Pulsifer, Project Manager, Section 2  
Project Directorate 1  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 711

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Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Robert Pulsifer, Project Manager, Section 2  
Project Directorate 1  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Global Nuclear Fuel

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