

May 2, 2003

MEMORANDUM TO: E. William Brach, Director
Spent Fuel Project Office, NMSS

THROUGH: M. Wayne Hodges, Deputy Director /RA/
Technical Review Directorate
Spent Fuel Project Office, NMSS

FROM: Earl P. Easton, Chief /RA/
Technical Review Section A
Technical Review Directorate
Spent Fuel Project Office, NMSS

Jack Guttman, Chief /RA/
Technical Review Section B
Technical Review Directorate
Spent Fuel Project Office, NMSS

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF INTERIM STAFF GUIDANCE MEMORANDUM
NO. 19, MODERATOR EXCLUSION UNDER HYPOTHETICAL
ACCIDENT CONDITIONS AND DEMONSTRATING
SUBCRITICALITY OF SPENT FUEL UNDER THE
REQUIREMENTS OF 10 CFR 71.55(e)

Attached is Interim Staff Guidance (ISG) No. 19 "Moderator Exclusion Under Hypothetical Accident Conditions and Demonstrating Subcriticality of Spent Fuel Under the Requirements of 10 CFR 71.55(e)," Revision 0, for your approval. This ISG provides new guidance on criticality safety reviews for spent fuel under hypothetical accident conditions. This ISG will be used in conjunction with NUREG-1617, "Standard Review Plan for Transportation Packages for Spent Nuclear Fuel," March, 2000, until such time as this ISG is incorporated into this NUREG.

This ISG has been reviewed by the Spent Fuel Project Office staff and the Technical Review, Licensing, and Inspection section supervisors. All comments received have been dispositioned; therefore, we recommend that this ISG be approved.

Attachment: ISG No. 19, Rev. 0

CONTACTS: Carl Withee, NMSS/SFPO
301-415-2443

Gordon Bjorkman, NMSS/SFPO
301-415-1911

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