



Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 337, MS 123
Erwin, TN 37650

(423) 743-9141

E-Mail :<http://www.atnfs.com>

**CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

**21G-04-0035
GOV-01-55-04
ACF-04-0052**

February 25, 2004

Director
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

- References:
- 1) Docket No. 70-143; SNM License 124
 - 2) Letter from B.M. Moore to NRC, License Amendment Request for the Oxide Conversion Building and Effluent Processing Building at the BLEU Complex, dated October 23, 2003 (21G-03-0277)
 - 3) NRC Licensing Review to Support License Amendment Request for Oxide Conversion Building and Effluent Processing Building, conducted on January 13, 2004
 - 4) Letter from B.M. Moore to NRC, Commitment Letter to Address NRC Licensing Review Questions Pertaining to Nuclear Criticality Safety at the OCB and EPB, dated February 11, 2004 (21G-04-0022)
 - 5) NRC Licensing Review to Support License Amendment Request for the Oxide Conversion Building and Effluent Processing Building, conducted on February 9-12, 2004

Subject: Revision to Commitment Letter to Address NRC Licensing Review Question No. 5 Pertaining to Nuclear Criticality Safety at the OCB and EPB

Dear Sir:

Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc. (NFS) hereby submits a revised response to questions raised during the referenced licensing review conducted at Framatome-ANP's facilities located in Richland, Washington (Reference 3). The revised response to Question 5 reflects items discussed with your staff during the licensing review that was conducted in Rockville, Maryland (Reference 5).

As noted in the attached response, internal procedures and safety basis documents supporting this licensing review for the Oxide Conversion Building (OCB) and Effluent Processing Building

*Nm5501
Public*

(EPB) will be updated. As such, this submittal contains commitments that shall be incorporated in the ISA Summary for the OCB and EPB located at the BLEU Complex.

For your convenience, a vertical line in the right-hand margin of the attachment denotes changes to the previous response that was provided in Reference 4.

If you or your staff have any questions, require additional information, or wish to discuss this, please contact me, or Mr. Rik Droke, Licensing and Compliance Director at (423) 743-1741. Please reference our unique document identification number (21G-04-0035) in any correspondence concerning this letter.

Sincerely,

NUCLEAR FUEL SERVICES, INC.



B. Marie Moore
Vice President
Safety and Regulatory

JSK/lsn
Attachment

cc:
Regional Administrator
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Suite 23T85
Atlanta, GA 30303

Mr. William Gloersen
Project Inspector
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Suite 23T85
Atlanta, GA 30303

Mr. Daniel Rich
Senior Resident Inspector
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Attachment

**Commitment Letter to Address NRC Licensing Review Question No. 5 Pertaining to
Nuclear Criticality Safety at the OCB and EPB**

Question 5.

Describe how the administrative control of a posting outside the MODCON area that prohibits the use of water during a fire will survive a fire.

Answer to Question 5.

The posting is not likely to survive a fire. However, the moderation control program and the training associated with the program constitute the controls to preclude the introduction of liquid moderator to the ModCon area. The posting outside the ModCon areas serves as a reminder to area operations to prohibit the use of water within the area. There are additional postings within the ModCon area for specific moderation control equipment, such as the blender. NFS will revise the NCSE for the Oxide Blending System to require the following that, if the location of the fire may involve Special Nuclear Material (SNM), the Emergency Control Director (ECD), or designated alternate, will be contacted for authorization prior to using water (or similar materials) during fire fighting. The NCSE will also specify that guidelines will also be provided (in an appropriate procedure) for approval of water in fire fighting to prevent a criticality accident. These guidelines are used for training purposes to assist emergency response organizations regarding firefighting in moderation-controlled areas of the NFS site. These requirements will then be implemented in the appropriate NFS procedures.

In discussions with the NRC, the NRC's NCS reviewer indicated that the implementing procedure for the above activities should be designated as an IROFS. However, in further discussions during the OCB Vertical Slice [February 9-12, 2004, held at the NFS Rockville Offices], NFS indicated that, consistent with their current program requirements, the implementing procedure is the management measure while the designated safety steps are indicated as the IROFS in the applicable procedure. This approach of making the procedure a management measure in which the safety steps are designated as the IROFS is consistent with the program implemented for the recently licensed BPF process.