

## FOIA Resource

FOIA REQUEST

Case No.:

2015-0174  
3/6/15

**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 05, 2015 11:13 AM  
**To:** FOIA Resource  
**Cc:** Jerry A. Havens  
**Subject:** Freedom of Information Act Request for a copy of Richard Webb's Treatise on the Explosion Hazard of the LMFBR, 2nd Edition, 1974, presently held by the NRC's Technical Library  
**Attachments:** Cover Page - 1973 Treatise.pdf; Purdue Colloquium.pdf; Abstract of Purdue Colloquium.docx; Richard E. Webb.JPG; 1973 Treatise.jpg; RWebb holding his 1973 Treatise.jpg; Webb home page.htm; Dr\_ Richard Webb's Background.htm; Permission letter.jpg; Richard Webb Credentials, Main.pdf; Richard Webb's Credentials supplement.pdf; World Cat of Webb's 1973 Treatise.png; World Cat of Webb's 1973 Treatise 2.png; Email Message of OSU Library proving WorldCat's reference to 1974 2nd Edition.eml; NRC Library reply to my message.eml; Contents, page v.png; Contents, page iv.png; Letter to FOIA Office of NRC.docx

To the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Officer of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

This Message is a FOIA request for a copy of a certain document (a printed book, which I call a "Treatise"), two copies of which the NRC's Technical Library holds in its library collection. This message is the re-printed in the attached MS Word document that is named, "Letter to FOIA Office of NRC", but with my signature at the end of the letter.

My name is Richard E. Webb, a citizen of the United States of America, though residing temporarily in Germany at the following address:

Richard E. Webb

(b) (6)

My Telephone number is (b) (6) The (b) (6) is the country code of Germany.

The certain document, a copy of which is hereby requested, is a book that I wrote and issued in the year 1974, and gave of printed copy of, to the United States Government, either to the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy of the United States Congress, or to the United States Atomic Energy Commission, or to both, and which has, evidently, been given over to, and is being now kept, by the Technical Library of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The NRC's Technical Library has on March 4, refused to lend the book to a public university in the United States on an interlibrary loan, although the book is catalogued by the WorldCat world catalogue system, or was catalogued as of a few days ago, and therefore, the NRC is a member library of the WorldCat system, according to information given to me by the Ohio State University Library in Columbus, Ohio. A librarian of the NRC Technical Library has confirmed to me that the library holds two copies of the document.

The subject book, a Treatise, a copy of which I request under the FOIA, and two copies of which the NRC's Technical Library has, has the following title:

**"The Explosion Hazards of the Liquid Metal Cooled, Fast Breeder Reactor (LMFBR) and the Unconstitutionality of the AEC's Civilian Nuclear Power Program,"** and is described in print on the cover of the Treatise as a second edition and with year of issuance or publication 1974 and place of publication Amherst, or Amherst, Massachusetts.

The requested document is what is declared on its cover page to be the second edition of the original treatise of the same title but dated July 1973. The Engineering Library of the Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana, holds a copy of the original treatise, again dated July 1973, with place of issuance of that original edition being, Bloomington, Indiana. I attach to this email message a copy of the cover page of the original, 1973-dated edition of my treatise as a pdf document named, "Cover Page - 1973 Treatise.pdf".

A copy of my original, 1973-dated treatise was obtained by means of an interlibrary loan from Purdue's Library to the University of Arkansas Library. A professor of chemical engineering there, one Dr. G. Havens, made a good photocopy of my 1973 treatise with my permission, as the copyright on the treatise is in my name, Richard E. Webb. What I now request by means of the present FOIA request is a full copy of the second edition of my treatise that is dated 1974, as I issued in the year 1974 while I was residing in Amherst, Massachusetts. The purpose of the second edition was to re-print my original, 1973-dated treatise but with two addenda -- the addenda comprising the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission's comments on my original, 1973-dated treatise, and my replies to those AEC comments, which I have characterized as my "rebuttal" to the AEC's comments on my original, 1973-dated treatise. Thus, the Cover Page of my 1973 treatise (attached) will aid in identifying the 2nd Edition of the treatise, dated 1974, Amherst, which your NRC's Technical Library holds, or I should say, held as of two days ago, when I contacted the library by telephone, as stated later in this present message.

I request a full printed photocopy of the aforesaid book/document, the 2nd Edition, 1974, and in the form of a pdf document. I assume that the modern technology of copying which the NRC surely has enables the person who operates the copy machine to copy the document directly to a pdf data file, from which the printed copy can then be more conveniently made. I am willing to pay the required fee for copying the document and processing my request; though I must assume that the amount of fee will be proper. I am extremely poor. I promise to prepay the fee by arranging to have my sister in Erie Michigan, Mrs. Deanna Durfey, send your office a bank check to pay for the fee, as she makes payments for me with money of mine which she holds for me, while I am in Europe, temporarily. I have no bank account, nor credit card, and so I cannot make the payments directly.

However, I think it would be right that the NRC give me free a full copy of the requested document, since I gave copies of my treatise to the United States Government, the Congress and the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, without any compensation or reward, though I did not ask for any reward or compensation. I never received any money from the United States Government for any of my scientific researches since I was awarded my Ph.D. degree in nuclear reactor physics and engineering in March 1972 (Ohio State University). I did receive from the United States Government a stipend and support for my studies and research for the doctorate at Ohio State University from the time January 1968 to December 20, 1970, in the form of a full Atomic Energy Commission fellowship, which was to support my studies and doctoral research up to the time of the award of the doctorate degree. However, after I became a candidate for the doctorate degree, by successfully completed the academic course of studies, and after I completed my theoretical calculations for my Thesis, the subject was, autocatalytic effects of explosion power transients in fast breeder reactors, and only needed to write up my dissertation and be examined on it by the professors of the Ohio State University, the United States Atomic Energy Commission abruptly cancelled my AEC Fellowship on or about December 22, 1970, after I had participated (on December 20, 1970) in an AEC nuclear power plant licensing hearing in New York for the Shoreham nuclear power plant that was then proposed (my participation was by formally questioning the engineers of the Atomic Energy Commission and the nuclear industry on the subjects of the potentials for catastrophic nuclear accident, and also by testifying), and then a day or two later,

when I testified before the AEC's Atomic Safety and Licensing Board on the matter of the construction of the Davis-Besse nuclear power reactor in Ohio. On the day following my Davis-Besse hearing testimony, the Atomic Energy Commission withdrew my fellowship. I was then forced to borrow money from a state bank in Columbus, Ohio, in order to support my family and myself, while I wrote my dissertation and be examined on it. Therefore, it would be good, if the Government would make such a fee that I can afford. I expect that the page count of the treatise will be about 321 pages or a few pages more.

It is certain that your NRC Technical Library has a copy of the subject Treatise -- the second edition, dated 1974. For on March 3, two days ago, I contacted the NRC's Technical Library by telephone, and conferred at length with a librarian in that library by the name Sadar, a woman, or so I assume that that librarian is a woman, from the sound of the person's voice. Ms. Sadar confirmed that the NRC's Technical Library in fact has the Treatise (as the WorldCat reported), and indeed, the NRC's Technical Library holds **two copies** of the Treatise, she declared -- namely, the document titled, "The Explosion Hazard of the Liquid Metal Cooled, Fast Breeder Reactor (LMFBR) and the Unconstitutionality of the AEC's Civilian Nuclear Power Program," 2nd Edition, 1974, Amherst. (It might be that in the 2nd edition, there is no comma after "Cooled" in the title.)

Ms. Sadar, after checking that the NRC's Technical Library also has a copy of my book, *The Accident Hazards of Nuclear Power Plants*, published by the University of Massachusetts Press in the year 1976, and after taking that book from the library shelves, and examining it, to learn that I, the caller on the telephone, am evidently the author of that book, and therefore, the author of the 1974 2nd Edition treatise titled, *The Explosion Hazards of the Liquid Metal Cooled, Fast Breeder Reactor, &c.*, with the place of issuance stated as "Amherst," that is, Amherst, Massachusetts, which the library catalogue of the NRC's Technical Library shows is also held by your Technical Library -- after Ms. Sadar made those checks and examined my *Accident Hazards* book -- she went back to the library book shelves again, and got one of the two copies of my second edition, 1974-dated treatise, and came back on the telephone to tell me the divisions of the contents of the 1974 treatise, and what is printed on its cover page. Ms. Sadar described the cover page of the 2nd Edition, 1974-dated treatise such that her description fits exactly that of my 1973-dated original treatise, which is displayed in the attached Cover Page - 1973 Treatise.pdf, except that there is, she said, an additional statement printed on the title page that declares this second edition includes the comments of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission on my 1973 treatise and my replies, or my rebuttal, to those AEC comments. Therefore, it is certain that as of March 3, 2015, two days ago, when I contacted the NRC's Technical Library, and conferred at length with the librarian who received my telephone call, two copies of the second, 1974-dated edition, Treatise were in the library shelves of the NRC's Technical Library, and hopefully, are still there in the Library.

I re-print below an email message that I sent to the NRC's Technical Library with attention to Ms. Sadar, as she instructed me to write in my message the words "To attention of Ms. Sadar." The attachments to that message are all included among the attachments of the present message to you, the FOIA office; though I have added for your information the PC images of the WorldCat hits of my 1974 treatise, and an email message from the Ohio State University library that confirms that the "1974 2nd edition" is indeed listed in the WorldCat, and informed me that the copy is held by the NRC, according to the WorldCat system. In my message to the NRC's library, I asked whether they would lend one of the two copies of my treatise, that is, the 2nd Edition, 1974-dated, to a Professor of Chemical Engineering at the University of Arkansas, via an interlibrary loan, but better would they make a copy for me, and send it to me; as that alternative process would avoid any risk of loss of a copy of my treatise.

The NRC's Library replied to my email message, but a reply not by Ms. Sadar (which, incidentally, raises a question in my mind whether my message was not given to Ms. Sadar), by stating a refusal to lend a copy on interlibrary loan to the University of Arkansas. The Library reply, however, did not reply to my request that a copy of my treatise be made by the NRC library and given to me, as I prefer that way of obtaining a copy, than by risking the loss of one of the copies by the process of an interlibrary loan.

I add that today, March 5, about noon time Germany, I went back into the WorldCat, and it does not now show the 1974 2nd Edition, only the 1973 edition. This fact suggests that an officer of the NRC, or some other person somewhere, removed the WorldCat a reference to the 2nd Edition, 1974-dated, Amherst-placed treatise. For the OSU librarian stated to me that the WorldCat has the means to find out which library holds the 2nd edition, and found that the NRC holds it. I copy as follows the OSU librarian's statement:

Thank you for contacting the OSU Libraries Reference. From what I was able to find within the WorldCat catalog (consulted via FirstSearch, and not the worldcat.org/WorldCat@OSU version which has more limited information), there are indeed two separate entries for 1973 and 1974 editions of this book. The 1974 edition is only held, amongst OCLC member libraries, by the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

It was this information that informed me that the NRC has had a copy of the 2nd edition, and therefore, I contacted the NRC's technical library and inquired about the treatise.

The preceding message, and the message below, and the attachments of this message, should be sufficient to identify the treatise. As for the page count, my notes of my conference with Ms. Sadar, she said that the 1974 2nd edition has 321 pages. I think she stated this figure, 321, before she got a copy in her hands, so that the library catalogue gives the figure 321 pages, probably. I have counted exactly the number of printed pages of my original, 1973-dated Treatise. There are a total of 314 pages with printing, and three pages blank, which are partitioning pages. Therefore, the page count of 321 pages which Ms. Sadar stated as the page count of the second edition, 1974-dated treatise is consistent with the fact that the second edition contains addenda -- the additions being the AEC's comments on my 1973-dated treatise and my rebuttal to those comments.

In order to guide the copying and verification of copy, I list below the pagination of the 1973 treatise, as some parts have more than one page for the same page number, though the extra pages are indicated by the word "continued" or "a, b, c, ...". The Contents of my original, 1973 Treatise are shown in the attached png-image documents, named "Contents, page iv" and "Contents page v." The contents of the original treatise should be the same as the contents of second edition, except the second edition must have pages that print the AEC's comments on my 1973 original treatise and my rebuttal to those comments. The Contents of my 1973 can serve as a aid to ensure that all the pages of the 2nd edition are copied for the FOIA requested copy of the 2nd Edition, 1974-dated treatise. I give as follows the odd pages that have a repeat of a page number, though with suffix to indicate so:

I. The main part of the Treatise, which is numbered 1 to 225. In this part the following additional pages occur:

"5 (Continued)", "9 (Continued)," "33 - continued", "36 [a]", "36 [b]", "36(c)", "36[d]", "36[e]", "79 (continued)" and "204 (continued)"

II. The Notes and References section has no page 8, but pages 8a, 8b, and 8c.

Finally, I state that I understood Ms. Sadar telling me that the cover page of the 2nd edition, 1974-dated treatise includes a notice that it contains the Comments of the AEC on my 1973 treatise, and my rebuttal to those comments; though I must add that because I have no clear notes of what she stated, it might be that such a notice does not appear on the cover, but probably at least in the Table of Contents for the treatise. Whatever is the case, though, it should be clear from the printed declaration on the cover page that it was issued in 1974 and characterized as a 2nd Edition, or Second Edition, with the place of issuance (my residence address in Amherst. I recall that the street was Goldenrod Circle in Amherst.

This concludes my FOIA request. The message, though, continues with a copy of my message to the NRC's Library. I cc a copy of this message to Professor Havens of the University of Arkansas.

Richard E. Webb  
address: Richard E. Webb  
(b) (6)

Below is a copy of my March 3, 2015 message to the NRC's Library, which explains also most of the attachments of this present email message.

**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 03, 2015 10:06 PM  
**To:** [library.resource@nrc.gov](mailto:library.resource@nrc.gov)  
**Cc:** Jerry A. Havens  
**Subject:** Richard Webb's Treatise on the Explosion Hazard of the LMFBR, 2nd Edition, 1974

Attention: Ms. Sadar

Dear Ms. Sadar, thank you for receiving my telephone call.

May I request that your library to lend by an interlibrary loan a copy of my treatise *The Explosion Hazard of the Liquid Metal Cooled Fast Breeder Reactor and the Unconstitutionality ... &c.* second edition, 1974, if your office should receive such a request from the Library of the University of Arkansas, that would be applied to by one Professor Gerald Havens. He is a senior professor of Chemical Engineering at that University. I cc him a copy of this email message.

I attach a few things. Your office may think it proper to consult the Purdue University Library, Ms. Dearborn, for confirmation that Professor Havens did obtain on interlibrary loan from Purdue a copy of the original edition of my treatise, which was dated July 1973, and that their copy was promptly returned. I give the following email address for the librarian Ms. Dearborn, [cdearborn@purdue.edu](mailto:cdearborn@purdue.edu). I attach a few things that show the truthfulness of my claim of authorship of the subject treatise. Thank you for informing me that your NRC Technical Library has two copies of the subject treatise -- both copies being of the 1974 second edition. As I told you, I learned that your NRC library has a copy of my 1974 second edition treatise from the WorldCat of the Ohio State University library.

May I also inquire whether your office could send me by pdf attachment to an email message a copy of the section of my 1974 edition which prints the Government's comments on my 1973 original treatise and my letter to the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy giving my rebuttal to the Government's comments, and any other documents parts that might be in the treatise that relate to the Government's comments on my 1973 treatise, such as any letter of the Congressional committee that might have accompanied the Government's Comments. By "Government," I mean the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, unless by 1974 the AEC had been divided into ERDA and the NRC, as I cannot recall presently.

I would like to offer you a few more attachments, but I shall limit the attachments at present.

Sincerely yours,  
Richard Webb  
telephone (b) (6)

I attach a signed letter giving permission to make a copy of my treatise or part or parts of it.

THE EXPLOSION HAZARD  
OF THE  
LIQUID METAL COOLED,  
FAST BREEDER REACTOR  
(LMFBR)

*WT Lho  
from  
PJ F. conf*

AND

THE UNCONSTITUTIONALITY OF THE AEC'S  
CIVILIAN NUCLEAR POWER PROGRAM

By

RICHARD E. WEBB, PH.D.

My Rebuttal To The  
U.S. Atomic Energy Commission's Comments  
On My Original Statement In Opposition  
To The LMFBR Demonstration Plant

And

My Original Statement and the AEC's Comments

July, 1973

Note: This treatise was written especially  
for the layman's comprehension, so that ENGR  
those who are not "experts" can assess their  
safety relative to the LMFBR.

*621.4835  
W387e*

621.4835  
W387e

1923 Maxwell Lane  
Bloomington, Indiana

47401

812-337-9134

339-5024

Copyright,  
Richard E. Webb,  
1973





School of  
**Nuclear Engineering**

West Lafayette, Indiana 47907



## **GRADUATE COLLOQUIUM**

**Thursday, May 11, 2006**

**3:00 p.m. GRIS 166**

**The Accident Hazards of Nuclear Power Plants, and of Nuclear Weapons, the Hazards of Radioactive Waste Disposal, and the Constitutional Law Respecting These Matters**

**Dr. Richard Webb**

**Independent Researcher**

Dr. Richard Webb will declare the primary findings of his research of the accident hazards of nuclear power plants (performed over 36 years), and relate his analysis of the nuclear accident hazards to the law of the Constitution of the United States of America.

Bachelor of Science, Engineering Physics, University of Toledo, Toledo, Ohio, 1962.

Doctorate (Ph.D.), Studies in nuclear reactor physics and engineering, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, 1972. His doctoral dissertation treats the subject of explosive power transients (nuclear explosions accidents) in liquid metal cooled, fast neutron, plutonium breeder reactors – popularly called “fast breeder reactors”.

Post-Doctoral Studies at Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, Institute for Science, Technology, and Public Policy, 1972-1974: studies of nuclear reactor accident hazards, and the Constitution of the United States.

Research and some teaching at University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 1974-1976. The result of this work was the writing and publication of his book *The Accident Hazards of Nuclear Power Plants*, published by the University of Massachusetts Press, 1976.

Colloquy at Purdue University to be given by Dr. Richard E. Webb, May 11, 2006.

The Accident Hazards of Nuclear Power Plants, and of Nuclear Weapons,  
the Hazards of radioactive Waste Disposal,  
and the constitutional Law respecting these Matters

The speaker of this colloquy will declare the primary findings of his research of the accident hazards of nuclear power plants (performed over 36 years), and relate his analysis of the nuclear accident hazards to the law of the Constitution of the United States of America. The topics to be covered in the colloquy include:

1. The design basis accidents of nuclear power reactors, and the related reactor safety systems; and the worse accident possibilities and their potentialities, such as power excursion accidents, loss of reactor cooling, loss of reactor coolant without reactor scram, and fiery eruptions of spent fuel rods storage as a consequence of an explosion of an adjacent reactor or its containment building, and the probability of the worse accident possibilities.
  2. The potential catastrophic consequences of the worst reactor accident possibilities in terms of human exposure to nuclear radiation and land contamination of fission product and plutonium radioactivity.
  3. The harmfulness of nuclear radiation (and x-rays), as analyzed and evaluated by atomic physics calculations.
  4. The theoretical potentials for catastrophic *steam explosions* in reactor accidents involving fuel melting, and their experimental validation.
  5. Nuclear explosion potentials of the fast neutron, plutonium fueled, plutonium breeder reactors, and the nuclear explosion accident hazards of the Advanced Gas-Cooled Reactors (AGRs) operating in Britain.
  6. Statistical analyses for investigating and evaluating the harmfulness of nuclear radiation:
    - a. Childhood leukemia in the Nordic Countries following the nuclear fallout from the testing of nuclear weapons in the atmosphere in the 1950s and early 1960s (a reported 488 nuclear explosions!) and following also the Chernobyl reactor eruption in 1986.
    - b. Stillbirths in southern Bavaria after the Chernobyl fallout in that region.
    - c. Cancer mortality among the workers of the Hanford plutonium production reactors, and the survivors of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.
  7. The Three Mile Island Nuclear Accident (March 28, 1979), the Chernobyl accident (April 26, 1986), an explosion of a Soviet Union nuclear submarine reactor, and the nuclear submarine accidents in the U.S. naval submarines.
  8. The accident hazards of nuclear weapons, to be briefly touched upon.
  9. Use of power reactors for eliminating the plutonium that has been produced since the creation of nuclear power reactors, and the hazards problems of nuclear waste disposal. --- And
  10. Analysis of the Constitution of the United States of America with respect to the foregoing matters.
-