



HITACHI

GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy

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TML 15-004

July 10, 2015

Director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-001
Attn: Document Control Desk

Subject: Annual Statement of Non-availability of Federal Government Funding for
Conversion from HEU to LEU for VNC Nuclear Test Reactor (NTR)

References: 1) 10 CFR 50.64 Limitations on the use of highly enriched uranium (HEU) in
domestic non-power reactors
2) NRC License R-33, Docket 50-73

GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy Americas, LLC., (GEH) operates the Nuclear Test Reactor (NTR) at the Vallecitos Nuclear Center in Sunol, California under the provisions of NRC License No. R-33. The NTR operates utilizing fully enriched U-Al alloy fuel at a maximum power of 100 kW.

In accordance with 10 CFR 50.64 (Reference 1), GEH is submitting the attached letter to demonstrate that DOE funding is not currently available for conversion of the NTR fuel.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 925-918-6074.

Sincerely,

Mark Leik, Manager
Regulatory Compliance

Commitments: None

Attachment: Letter from C. Landers – DOE NNSA to M. Leik - VNC, July 9, 2015

cc: D. Hardesty, NRC NRR



Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Washington, DC 20585



9 Jul 2015

Mr. Mark Leik
Manager EHS, Global Facilities
and Services
GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy
Vallecitos Nuclear Center
6705 Vallecitos Road
Sunol, CA 94586

Dear Mr. Leik:

In accordance with 10 CFR Part 50.64, *Limitations on the Use of Highly Enriched Uranium in Domestic Non-Power Reactors*, the Nuclear Test Reactor (NTR), the Vallecitos Nuclear Center is required to send a letter annually to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission documenting if federal funds are available to convert to low-enriched uranium (LEU) fuel.

This letter serves to notify you that Department of Energy funding will not be available in FY2015 for the Vallecitos Nuclear Center to convert from highly-enriched uranium fuel to low enriched fuel.

You will be notified in the event these circumstances change. If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 586-9993.

Regards,

Christopher C. Landers
Reactor Conversion Program Director
Office of Material Management & Minimization
Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation

cc: Jeff Chamberlin, NA-231
Tracey L. Bishop, NE-32
Vic Pearson, DOE ID
Kenny Osborne, DOE ID
Earl Saito, GE Hitachi

