

GENERAL ATOMIC COMPANY
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July 12, 1979

Mr. Steven A. Varga
Assistant Director for Advanced Reactors
Division of Project Management
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Subject: Review of Thorium Oxide for Use in Fort St. Vrain

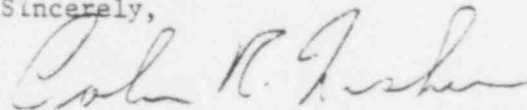
Dear Mr. Varga:

General Atomic Company has recently conducted a reevaluation of its fuel supply program for the Fort St. Vrain nuclear generating station. This reevaluation has included an assessment of the total costs to GAC of introducing thorium oxide in future Fort St. Vrain reload segments.

As a result of this reevaluation, General Atomic Company has decided to defer indefinitely the use of thorium oxide in future Fort St. Vrain reload segments. Accordingly, GAC requests that the thorium oxide review be suspended. General Atomic will reimburse NRC for all charges accumulated to date in the review of thorium oxide, up to a limit of \$20,000, as provided in 10CFR170.

If future circumstances warrant the use of thorium oxide in Fort St. Vrain reload segments, General Atomic Company will request a resumption of the review at that time.

Sincerely,



Colin R. Fisher, Director
Licensing Division

CRF:jr

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