



SECRETARY

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

October 17, 2019

Mr. Sven Van den Berghe
NMS Institute Director
Belgian Nuclear Research Centre
Avenue Hermann-Debrouxlaan
40-BE-1160 Brussels
Belgium

Mr. Eric van Walle
Director-General
Belgian Nuclear Research Centre
Avenue Hermann-Debrouxlaan
40-BE-1160 Brussels
Belgium

Dear Messrs. Van den Berghe and van Walle:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am responding to your letter of October 3, 2019, to Chairman Svinicki regarding the Export License Application of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) (Docket No. 11006361). In your letter, you offer your response to statements made by Curium LLC regarding operation of your BR2 reactor in their petition for a hearing on the export license application.

Because your letter bears on a proceeding pending before the Commission, it would be inappropriate for the Chairman to discuss the matter at this time. This is because the Commission must remain impartial during the pendency of the proceeding.

A copy of your letter and this response will be served on the participants in the DOE Export License Application proceeding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Annette Vietti-Cook", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Annette L. Vietti-Cook