

September 30, 1996

Mr. John C. Abbott
Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
P.O. Box 999
Richland, WA 99352

SUBJECT: FIN L-2019, ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE RENEWAL OF GENERAL
ELECTRIC (GE) WILMINGTON LICENSE SNM-1097 (TAC NO. L10079)

Dear Mr. Abbott:

Thank you for the partial list of additional information needed for preparation of the Environmental Assessment (EA) for renewal of GE's special nuclear material license, which you submitted by letter dated August 20, 1996, and for participation in the conference call on September 19, 1996. The request for this information will be sent to GE soon.

We are concerned about Pacific Northwest National Laboratory's commitment to maintaining the schedule for this task. The task was initiated on June 24, 1996, and the license renewal application, environmental report and supplement, and other documents were sent to you on June 18, 1996. You accompanied the Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff on a site visit on July 23 and 24, 1996. However, Mr. Tracy Ikenberry was not available for that site visit and was unable to visit the site until August 28, 1996. NRC had anticipated receiving your comments on what additional information was needed from GE within 4 weeks of the July site visit, in accordance with your proposal dated May 30, 1996. Although the partial list of questions was sent in a timely manner, the delay caused by waiting for Mr. Ikenberry's final comments, which were sent via e-mail on September 10, 1996, has resulted in a delay of the schedule of this task.

NRC's schedule for renewal of GE's license has a goal of renewal by February 1997, and there are a number of interim milestones, including publication of a Finding of No Significant Impact based upon the final EA, that are dependent on the completion of this task.

NRC is concerned that this environmental review and EA preparation may delay the license renewal, and we request your affirmation that staff will be available to meet the commitments in the proposal and task order.

If you have questions about this matter, please call Mary Adams, the technical monitor for this task, at (301) 415-8111.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

David Tiktinsky

Technical Assistance Project Manager
Program Management, Policy Development
and Analysis Staff, NMSS

Docket 70-1113
License SNM-1097

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Docket 70-1113

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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Mr. John C. Abbott
Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
P.O. Box 999
Richland, WA 99352

SUBJECT: FIN L-2019, ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE RENEWAL OF GENERAL ELECTRIC (GE), WILMINGTON, MATERIALS LICENSE SNM-1097 (TAC NO. L10079)

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David Tiktinsky".

David Tiktinsky
Technical Assistance Project Manager
Program Management, Policy Development
and Analysis Staff, NMSS

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