



70-7001
70-7002

Department of Energy

Oak Ridge Operations
P.O. Box 2001
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831— 8651

September 16, 1996

*Fig 5.
Does this have
a ticket for action?
J.G.*

INFORMATION ROUTING ONLY	
cc:	<div><div>IMNS</div><div>FCSS</div><div>DWM</div><div>SFPO</div><div>Other</div></div> <div>RMB</div> <div>PAB</div>

Dr. Carl J. Paperiello
United States Nuclear
Regulatory Commission
2 White Flint North
MS T8A33
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Dr. Paperiello:

The August 28, 1996, briefing by your staff to the Commissioners was a monumental day in the transition of the regulatory oversight responsibility of the Gaseous Diffusion Plants (GDP) from the Department of Energy (DOE) to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The past three years have been a substantial challenge to both organizations, and I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank you and your staff for a most diligent and successful effort. The cooperation and dedication of your staff have been instrumental in this effort.

DOE looks forward to the transition date of March 3, 1997. However, this date for all practical purposes will complete DOE's regulatory responsibilities for the leased portions of the GDPs (except for Highly Enriched Uranium Refeed) and bring to a close DOE's financial obligations for the transition of the facilities. As such, I am writing this letter to request guidance from you and your staff on the DOE support that NRC expects from now to the transition date and beyond, recognizing that DOE will regulate the GDPs until March 3, 1997. The information resulting from this request will be essential input to future DOE budgetary considerations.

Of particular interest is the support needed for future activities associated with the Annual Report to Congress, the Compliance Plans, recertification of the GDPs, and any general DOE support. With regard to the Annual Report to Congress, we view DOE's participation as a review function of the report prepared by NRC. For the GDP Compliance Plans, Revision 4 (to be issued in approximately the next six weeks) will complete DOE's financial obligations for this effort. Also, I have been advised by DOE's General Counsel that DOE's financial responsibility for any newly identified safety upgrades or applications for certification will cease once NRC assumes oversight responsibility for the GDPs. As each of us continue to face reductions in annual budgets, I'm sure that you can appreciate my need for this information.

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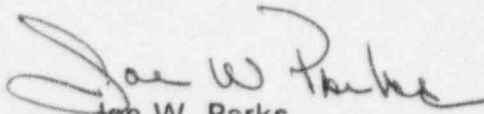
Dr. Carl J. Paperiello

-2-

September 16, 1996

Again, thank you for your support in the transition of the GDPs, and I look forward to our interactions in the future. If there are any questions regarding my request, please contact me at (423) 576-0892.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Joe W. Parks". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Joe" being the most prominent.

Joe W. Parks
Assistant Manager for
Enrichment Facilities

cc:

R. E. Dierlam, NE-40, GTN

J. Dale Jackson, EF-20/TRPK, ORO

United States Department of Energy

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