

September 30, 1996

Mr. Yawfik M. Raby
Chairman, N-17
Building 235, Room A141
National Institute of Standards
and Technology
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899

SUBJECT: ANS-15.2 N-17 COMMITTEE BALLOT

Dear Mr. Raby:

Enclosed is my ballot for ANS-15.2 "Quality Control for Plate-Type Uranium-Aluminum Fuel Elements." I have voted "approved with comments" and have provided comments in the enclosure to this letter. Furthermore, I have reviewed the Scope, and have no objections.

If you have any questions concerning this ballot, please contact Al Adams at (301) 415-1127 or myself.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Seymour H. Weiss, Director
Non-Power Reactors and Decommissioning
Project Directorate
Division of Reactor Program Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-184

Enclosure:
As stated

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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Building 235, Room A141
National Institute of Standards
and Technology
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899

SUBJECT: ANS-15.2 N-17 COMMITTEE BALLOT

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If you have any questions concerning this ballot, please contact Al Adams at (301) 415-1127 or myself.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Seymour H. Weiss".

Seymour H. Weiss, Director
Non-Power Reactors and Decommissioning
Project Directorate
Division of Reactor Program Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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NRC COMMENTS ON ANS 15.2

QUALITY CONTROL FOR PLATE-TYPE URANIUM-ALUMINUM FUEL ELEMENTS

1. Section 2 discusses the fuel element purchaser providing standards for material purchase when American Society for Testing and Materials or equivalent standards are not available. In this case, the standard allows compliance with the purchaser's specification to be established by supplier certification of chemical analysis or mill test reports. In these cases the purchaser should consider performing inspections to help verify that the purchaser's standards are being met.
2. Sections 2.1.2 and 2.1.7 refer to a minimum of one representative sample. The use of one sample would be valid if it is known for certain that the uranium is a homogeneous blend. If the sample is not homogeneous, then the use of one sample may not reveal a problem. Consider adding a precaution about the use of single samples.
3. Section 12.3 refers to visual examinations of welds. However, visual examination of the surface of a weld may not detect all instances of cracks and incomplete fusion. Likewise, an examination of surface porosity may not reveal subsurface problems. Please consider if additional examinations are needed.
4. Consider adding a requirement for performing various activities using purchaser approved procedures.
5. Many of the tests described in the standard do not discuss the qualification standards for personnel conducting the tests. Consider the need for a blanket statement on qualification of persons conducting tests.
6. In addition to the information given in section 14.1 on packaging, a statement should be made that additional packaging should be added as needed when the fuel elements are placed in their shipping container to prevent damage during shipment.

ANSI N-17 COMMITTEE BALLOT

DOCUMENT: ANS-15.2 "Quality Control for Plate-Type Uranium-Aluminum Fuel Elements".

BALLOT DUE: September 30, 1996

_____ Approved

_____ X _____ Approved with Comments

_____ Not Approved

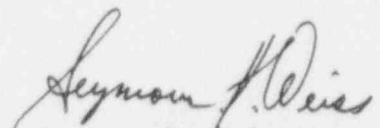
_____ Not Voting

Comments: (NOTE - all "Approved with Comments" and "Not Approved" ballots must include comments.

See attached for comments.

Return ballot to:

Tawfik M. Raby
Chairman, N-17
National Institute of Standards & Technology
Building 225, Room A141
Gaithersburg, MD 20899


Seymour H. Weiss

Signature

U.S. NRC

Representing

September 30, 1996

Date