



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

October 2, 1996

Mr. Robert A. Nelson
11761 NW 80 CT
Chiefland, Florida 32626-4777

Dear Mr. Nelson:

This letter is in response to your undated correspondence to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), postmarked September 7, 1996. You requested the locations of nuclear waste storage sites in Tennessee, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Arkansas, and Missouri.

To help answer your question, I have enclosed a copy of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission Information Digest (1996). This document includes information relative to nuclear materials that are regulated by the NRC. It should be noted that NRC does not regulate most nuclear materials or activities conducted by the Department of Energy (DOE). DOE can be contacted at (202) 586-5000. Moreover, certain States called Agreement States have executed agreements with NRC allowing those States to regulate nuclear materials within their State. Of the six States you listed, all but Missouri and Virginia are Agreement States. That is Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina and Arkansas have State agencies which regulate nuclear materials in those States. A list of contacts in the noted Agreement States is enclosed.

With respect to request, nuclear waste is divided into two basic categories: (1) high-level waste; and (2) low-level waste. Simply speaking, high-level waste is spent nuclear fuel, and low-level waste is essentially all other nuclear waste. These terms are defined in greater detail in the Information Digest (pages 62 to 77). The Information Digest identifies reactor sites on pages 34 and 35. Fuel cycle facilities (facilities that are involved in the production of nuclear fuel) are listed on page 54. There is an active low-level waste disposal facility in Barnwell, South Carolina, and a proposed facility in Wake County, North Carolina.

Low-level waste may be stored at other facilities such as material licensees. Information on the quantity of low-level waste which is stored at these types of facilities is not maintained by the NRC or Agreement States. Examples of these licensees include hospitals using nuclear medicine and universities doing nuclear research.

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R.Nelson

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I trust this letter answers your questions. If you have any further questions or comments regarding the enclosed, please contact me at (301) 415-6613.

Sincerely,

[Original signed by]

Timothy E. Harris, Project Manager
Low-Level Waste and Regulatory
Issues Section
Low-Level Waste and Decommissioning
Projects Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosures: As stated

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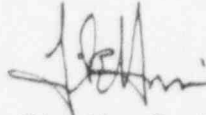
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and Safeguards

Enclosures: As stated

LIST OF AGREEMENT STATE CONTACTS

Arkansas

Bernard Bevil, Acting Director
Division of Radiation Control and Emergency Management
Department of Health
4815 West Markham Street
Little Rock, AR 72205-3867
(501) 661-2301

North Carolina

Dayne Brown, Director
Division of Radiation Protection
Department of Environmental, Health and Natural Resources
3825 Barrett Drive
Raleigh, NC 27609-7221
(919) 571-4141

South Carolina

Max Batavia, Chief
Bureau of Radiological Health
Department of Health and Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201
(803) 737-7400

Tennessee

Michael Mobley, Director
Division of Radiological Health
Department of Environment and Conservation
401 Church Street
Nashville, TN 37243-1532