



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

January 3, 1997

Mr. B. N. Femreite, Vice President
Engineering and Manufacturing
Siemens Power Corporation
2101 Horn Rapids Road
P.O. Box 130
Richland, WA 99352-0130

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 70-1257/96-206 AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. Femreite:

This refers to the inspection conducted on December 2-5, 1996, at your Richland, Washington facility. The purpose of the inspection was to determine whether activities authorized by the license were conducted safely and in accordance with NRC requirements. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with those members of your staff identified in the report.

Areas examined during the inspection included the adequacy and implementation of your criticality safety program for the operating facilities and preparations for the startup of the new Dry Conversion Facility. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observation of activities in progress.

The inspection determined that you have developed an overall sound criticality safety program and are generally implementing the requirements of your license. However, one violation was identified, as specified in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice). The violation, which involved the failure to update the UF₆ Cylinder Wash Station criticality safety limit card, is being cited because three different administrative checks failed to identify the deficiency.

You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. In your response, you should document the specific actions taken and any additional actions you

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plan to prevent recurrence. After reviewing your response to this Notice, including your proposed corrective actions and the results of future inspections, the NRC will determine whether further NRC enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with NRC regulatory requirements.

In accordance with the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room. Should you have any questions concerning this inspection, we would be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,

(Original signed by)

Philip Ting, Chief

Operations Branch

Division of Fuel Cycle Safety
and Safeguards, NMSS

Docket No. 70-1257

License No. SNM-1227

Enclosures:

As stated

cc w/enclosures:

Mr. L. J. Maas, Manager,

Regulatory Compliance

Mr. R. E. Vaughan, Manager,

Safety, Security, & Licensing

cc w/o enclosures:

Mr. T. Strong, Chief,

Dept. of Social & Health Services,

Olympia, WA

DISTRIBUTION:

Docket File 70-1257 CHooker, RIV/WCFO NMSS r/f

PDR, LPDR KHardin, FCLB FCOB r/f

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FCSS r/f

Case File

MWeber, FCLB

DOCUMENT NAME: 96-206.SPC

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