



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

April 3, 1997

Project No. 697

Document Control Desk
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington D.C. 20555-0001
ATTN: Mr. James H. Wilson

Subject: NRC Inspection of Commercial Light Water Reactor Program Lead Test
Assembly Activities

Members of the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) involved with the Commercial Light Water Reactor Lead Test Assembly Project recently had a meeting with your Mr. Steven Matthews to discuss the status of procurement and fabrication activities. During that meeting, it was determined that the week of April 28 would be an appropriate time for Mr. Matthews to inspect activities at PNNL related to procurement and fabrication. At that time, PNNL will have received a number of components for the Tritium Producing Burnable Absorber Rods (TPBARs). Components that will be available by the end of April include: uncoated cladding tubes, getter tubes, and pellets. In addition, PNNL will have records related to the procurement process for components, receipt inspection records, and should be involved in welding process qualification at that time.

Considering the aggressive schedule facing this program and the available fabrication process considerations, we are requesting NRC involvement in an inspection at PNNL the week of April 28, 1997.

If you have any questions, please call Max Clausen at 586-8217 or Richard Latorre at 586-4262.

Sincerely,

Stephen M. Sohinki
Director
Office of Commercial Light
Water Reactor Production
Defense Programs

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