



GE Nuclear Energy

General Electric Company
Vallecitos Nuclear Center
P.O. Box 460, Vallecitos Road
Pleasanton, CA 94566

February 7, 1997

Terry R. Lash, Director
Office of Nuclear Energy
U.S. Department of Energy
Washington, D.C. 20585

Reference: USNRC License R-33, Docket 50-73.

Dear Mr. Lash:

The General Electric Company operates the General Electric Nuclear Test Reactor (NTR) at the Vallecitos Nuclear Center under the provisions of USNRC License R-33. The NTR operates at a maximum power of 100 kW utilizing fully enriched U-Al alloy fuel.

In order to comply with 10CFR50.64, General Electric requests that DOE provide funding during the Fiscal Year 1997 to permit the conversion of the NTR from HEU fuel to LEU fuel. If such funding is not available in FY 1997, General Electric would appreciate any information on when the funding might be made available.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

C. W. Bassett, Manager
Regulatory Compliance
(510) 862-4469

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cc: Document Control Desk
Project Directorate
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555
Attention: M. M. Mendonca

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