

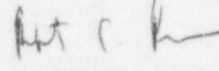


UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

June 4, 1997

MEMORANDUM TO: Philip Ting, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards

FROM: Robert C. Pierson, Chief 
Special Projects Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards

SUBJECT: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE REQUEST - REVIEW OF CERTIFICATE
AMENDMENT REQUEST FOR DELETION OF PORTSMOUTH
GASEOUS DIFFUSION PLANT (PORTS) TECHNICAL SAFETY
REQUIREMENT (TSR) 2.2.4.1 ENTITLED, "SEAL EXHAUST PUMP
OVERFLOWS"

The Special Projects Branch requests technical assistance in reviewing the following project:

Project: USEC certificate amendment request (CAR), dated May 6, 1997, to delete TSR 2.2.4.1
entitled, "Seal Exhaust Pump Overflows."

Casework/RITS/TAC Nos: 70-7002120S/212AM/L32031

Requested Action: TSR 2.2.4.1 requires seal exhaust pumps to have overflow lines to prevent a
criticality in the event that a mixture of oil and enriched uranium completely fills the pump
cavities. According to USEC, updated Nuclear Criticality Safety Evaluations (NCSEs) and
Nuclear Criticality Safety Approvals (NCSAs) have determined that overflows are not needed to
prevent accidental criticalities associated with the accumulation of potentially uranium-laden oil in
the seal exhaust pump cavities.

According to USEC, the amendment will allow installation of replacement seal exhaust pumps in
X-330 and X-333 facilities. As such, USEC has requested the NRC to give high priority to this
CAR.

The SPB target date for completion of this amendment is August 22, 1997. To meet this target
date, completion of your review in the form of recommendations based on independent
confirmatory criticality computer code evaluations, by July 25, 1997, is requested. The estimated
schedule accounts for at least one request for additional information (RAI) to be generated by the
primary reviewer no later than June 27, 1997. If needed, a meeting with USEC on this subject
could also be arranged before sending them our RAI.

A copy of the CAR (Attachment 1), and the pertinent NCSAs and NCSEs (Attachment 2), are
attached. Yawar Faraz has already discussed this request with Jack Davis of your staff.
However, if another reviewer is assigned, please have him directly contact Mr. Faraz before
June 9, 1997, to further discuss this request.

Contacts: PM: Yawar H. Faraz, 415-8113
LA: D. Amy Hoadley, 415-8129

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Please provide the information requested below and return a completed copy to the Licensing Assistant (LA) or Project Manager (PM) before June 9, 1997.

Name of Reviewer: JACK R. DAVIS

FCOB's Projected Completion Date: 7/25/97

FCOB Branch Chief Signature: _____

The above TAC No. should be referenced in future correspondence related to this request and on the RITS Report for recording staff time expended on this effort.

Docket 70-7002
Certificate GDP-2

Attachment 1: 5/6/97 ltr frm James H. Miller, USEC to C. J. Paperiello

Attachment 2: NCSA-0330_006.A00 request date 10/10/96
NCSE-0333_016.E00 review date 10/10/96
NCSA-0333_016.A00 request date 10/10/96
NCSE-0330_006.E00 review date 10/7/96
NCSA-0330_005.A00 request date 10/10/96
NCSE-0330_005.E00 review date 10/7/96

Docket 70-7002

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NAME	YFaraz:ij	YAF	DHoadley		DMartin		RPIerson	
DATE	6/3/97		6/13/97		6/14/97		6/11/97	

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Name of Reviewer: JACK R. DAVIS

FCOB's Projected Completion Date: 7/25/97

FCOB Branch Chief Signature: [Signature] 6/5/97

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