



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D. C. 20520

BUREAU OF OCEANS AND INTERNATIONAL
ENVIRONMENTAL AND SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

RECEIVED
U.S. NRC

1978 NOV 30 PM 1 38

November 30, 1978 EXPORT/IMPORT
AND
INTERNAT'L SFGRDS

XSNM01204
70-2709

Mr. James R. Shea
Director
Office of International Programs
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Bethesda, Maryland 20555

Dear Mr. Shea:

I am writing in reference to the application (XSNM-1204) from the General Electric Company dated September 22, 1977, for a license to export 51.2 kilograms of U-235 in HEU to the Federal Republic of Germany for fabrication of fuel elements for use in the General Electric Test Reactor (GETR). This application was forwarded for Executive Branch review under cover of Mr. Gossick's letter to Mr. Tarnoff dated October 3, 1977.

Shortly after we received this application, the GETR was shut down pending a decision by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission as to whether the GETR might be located too close to a geologic fault for safe operation in the event of an earthquake. In light of the uncertainties involved in this matter, Executive Branch review of this export application has been held in abeyance pending receipt of further information regarding the prospects for resumed operation of the GETR. However, we are somewhat concerned that our lack of information about any prospective NRC decision on this matter might result in a delay in completing Executive Branch action on this application.

In order to help insure against any inadvertent Executive Branch delay in this regard, I would appreciate being notified as promptly as possible of any NRC actions bearing on the possible resumption of GETR operations.

Sincerely,

Louis V. Nosenzo
Deputy Assistant Secretary

7812180238