

From: Joseph Donoghue

Sent: Wednesday, January 11, 2023 7:17 AM

To: rmeyer@goeaston.net

Cc: Andrea Veil <andrea.veil@nrc.gov>; Andrea Kock (She/Her/Hers) <Andrea.Kock@nrc.gov>

Subject: Response to letter dated October 12, 2022

Dear Mr. Meyer:

We received your letter dated October 12, 2022 (ML23005A215), regarding a technical basis for quantification of potential fuel fragmentation, relocation, and dispersal (FFRD). The NRC staff has summarized our understanding of FFRD in Research Information Letter (RIL) 2021-13, "Interpretation of Research on Fuel Fragmentation, Relocation, and Dispersal at High Burnup," (ML21313A145) and NRR is taking it into consideration as part of our regulatory activities. The NRC is also working with domestic and international partners to access additional current information regarding FFRD, and we will consider this research to help inform future regulatory activities. If you would like any specific comments or recommendations to be considered by the NRC staff as part of these regulatory activities, I recommend that you submit your comment(s) on the docket. An opportunity exists now to submit public comments on the Petition for Rulemaking (PRM) based on the proposal in your August 1, 2022, letter, PRM-50-124 (<https://www.regulations.gov/document/NRC-2022-0178-0002>). Also, as previously communicated via letter on September 29, 2022, the regulatory basis for the increased enrichment rulemaking, which will appropriately analyze and address FFRD, will be published for public comment by the end of this calendar year.

Thank you,

Joe Donoghue

Director, Division of Safety Systems