UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 29, 2000

Mr. Michael Garner
Department of Ecology
Nuclear Waste Program
State of Washington
P.O. Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

Mr. William Sinclair, Director
Division of Radiation Control
State of Utah
P.O. Box 144850
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4850

Gentlemen:

Enclosed is an application dated September 23, 1999 from Siemens Power Corporation (SPC) for a license to import Class A radioactive waste from Germany.

The material to be imported is from Advanced Nuclear Fuels GmbH (ANF) in Lingen, Germany, and consists of combustible materials contaminated with low enriched uranium. The waste is generated during low enriched nuclear fuel fabrication including conversion of UF6, production of UO2 powder, pressing of the powder into pellets, and loading of the pellets into fuel assemblies.

The imported material will be shipped directly from Europe by sea to U.S. East coast ports and ultimately by truck to SPC in Richland, Washington. Upon receipt, SPC will incinerate the material and the uranium in the ash will be recovered; the slightly contaminated non-combustibles sorted out during the incineration process will be returned to the originator in Germany. Residues from the filter process will be disposed of at either the Hanford low-level radioactive waste disposal site operated by U.S. Ecology in Richland, Washington or Envirocare in Clive, Utah in accordance with applicable site license conditions and waste acceptance criteria.

Before taking action on this application, we wish to consult with all affected States and compacts and ask for your comments regarding the proposed import of the subject low-level radioactive waste.

Sincerely,

Betty L. Wright for

Ronald D. Hauber, Deputy Director
Office of International Programs

Enclosure:
Import Lic. Appl. IW009 dtd 09/23/99

cc w/encl: J. Greeve, NMSS/DWM
P. Lohaus, OSP

Template OIP-002

D103

SIEMENS

September 23, 1999
DLN:99:080

IW009
11005149
Class A waste

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Mr. Ronald D. Hauber, Assistant Director
Exports, Security, and Safety Cooperation
Office of International Programs
Mail Stop 3H-5
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Mr. Hauber:

Siemens Power Corporation (SPC) requests, under 10 CFR 110.20 (a)(2) and 10 CFR 110.32, the issuance of a license to import material as described below:

Applicant: Siemens Power Corporation
2101 Horn Rapids Road
Richland, WA 99352

Supplier: Advanced Nuclear Fuels GmbH
Am Seitenkanal 1
Industriepark Sud
49811 Lingen
Germany

Country of Origin: Unknown

Intermediate Consignee: None

Ultimate Consignee: Siemens Power Corporation
2101 Horn Rapids Road
Richland, WA 99352

Shipment Dates: First - January, 2000
Last - December, 2010

Material: Combustible material contaminated with low enriched uranium (5% max. ^{235}U).

Generating Process - Low enriched nuclear fuel fabrication including conversion of UF_6, production of UO_2 powder, pressing of the powder into pellets, and loading of the pellets into fuel assemblies.

Waste Classification - Class A

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Cyp to PDR/DCS
10/6/99

Physical/Chemical Characteristics - Combustible material (paper, wood, clothing, plastic) contaminated with uranium oxide powder, with a small fraction of slightly contaminated non-combustibles.

Route of Transit - By sea to east coast U.S. port and by truck to SPC.

Disposition - The material will be incinerated and the uranium in the ash recovered at SPC in Richland. An export license will be applied for, and the slightly contaminated non-combustibles sorted out during the incineration process will be returned to ANF GmbH. The uranium-bearing ash will be chemically dissolved, filtered, and the resulting filtrate processed through a solvent extraction process to recover the majority of the contained uranium. The recovered uranium will be used as feed to SPC's nuclear fuel production processes.

Residues from the filter process will be disposed of at either the Hanford low-level radioactive waste disposal site operated by U.S. Ecology (Richland, WA) or Envirocare (Clive, Utah) in accordance with applicable site license conditions and waste acceptance criteria. A letter dated February 26, 1999 from the State of Washington Department of Ecology, which gives approval for SPC to dispose of the filter residues from this operation at U.S. Ecology's disposal site in Richland, is attached. Envirocare has agreed to accept this same filter residue material based on the State of Washington's letter.

Quantity: Periodic shipments totaling 1200 KgU (5% maximum enrichment) and 36 Kg ^{235}U over 10 years.

Enclosed is a check for $5600.

If you require more information concerning this application, please call me at 509-375-8380.

Very truly yours,

D. L. Noss,
Safeguards Specialist

pm

STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
P.O. Box 47600 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7600
(360) 407-6000 • TDD Only (Hearing Impaired) (360) 407-6006

February 26, 1999

Mr. Loren J. Maas, Manager
Regulatory Compliance
Siemen's Power Coorporation
2101 Horn Rapids Road
Richland, WA 99352

Dear Mr. Maas:

I have reviewed the materials that you provided to Mr. Mike Garner, Environmental Specialist, regarding Siemen's uranium recovery process. I concur with Mr. Garner's assessment that waste does not result until the vacuum filtration stage of the uranium recovery process. This stage separates the uranium solution, to be used for fuel fabrication, from the ash residue. The waste consists of ash residue and perlite filter media. Hence, the waste generated by the uranium recovery process for both Siemen's Lingen, Germany and Richland, Washington contaminated material would be attributed to Siemens' Richland facility. Therefore, these wastes would be eligible for disposal at US Ecology's disposal facility, provided they meet the waste acceptance criteria for the site. I want to emphasize that all non-incinerable items received from Siemen's Lingen facility are not eligible for disposal at the US Ecology facility.

The authorization provided above is valid for those materials and processes described within your proposal. I am providing a copy of this letter to Mr. Doug Mosich, Chair of the Northwest Interstate Compact, to ensure the compact is aware that the Washington State Department of Ecology will attribute this waste to Siemens' Richland facility. Should you have additional questions, please contact Mr. Garner at (360) 407-7102.

Sincerely,

Michael Wilson, Program Manager
Nuclear Waste Program

cc: Mr. Doug Mosich, Northwest Interstate Compact
Mr. Gary Robertson, Washington State Department of Health