



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

April 11, 2000

Mr. David A. Lochbaum
Nuclear Safety Engineer
Union of Concerned Scientists
1616 P Street NW, Suite 310
Washington, DC 20036-1495

Dear Mr. Lochbaum:

Thank you for your letter of March 15, 2000, providing comments on the draft final technical study of spent fuel pool accident risk at decommissioning nuclear power plants. We agree that the report did not explicitly address your concerns expressed at the July 1999 public workshop on decommissioning plant spent fuel pool accident risks. We will ensure that those concerns are specifically identified and addressed in the final report.

We also appreciate the additional concerns provided in your March 15 letter. Public stakeholder input has improved the quality of our effort, and has resulted in the technical working group expanding their reviews in the areas of criticality; seismic impacts; degradation of spent fuel pool concrete and liner; and addressing the impact of a loss of water event on operating units at a multi-unit site. Your additional insights will aid us in ensuring that our final report is comprehensive.

Sincerely,

Stuart A. Richards, Director
Project Directorate IV & Decommissioning
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation