June 15, 2000

MEMORANDUM TO: Sarah E. Colpo

Nuclear Engineer

Spent Fuel Project Office

FROM: William F. Kane, Director /RA/

Office of Nuclear Material Safety

and Safeguards

SUBJECT: DIFFERING PROFESSIONAL VIEW REGARDING THE SAFETY OF

PACKAGES CONTAINING URANIUM HEXAFLOURIDE ENRICHED TO GREATER THAN 1% AND RELYING ON MODERATOR EXCLUSION

AS THE BASIS FOR CRITICALITY SAFETY

On June 2, 2000, you submitted a paper to Mr. E. William Brach, Director, Spent Fuel Project Office, expressing concerns about the above subject and listing nine areas that you stated need to be improved to meet the agency's mandate to protect public health and safety, the environment, and the common defense and security. I have determined that your views should be treated as a Differing Professional View (DPV), and I have appointed a panel to review the DPV in accordance with Management Directive 10.159. Ms. Melanie Galloway and Mr. David Tiktinsky will serve as members of the panel, along with Dr. Charles Kelber, whom I selected as the third member of the panel based on your recommendation. Ms. Galloway will serve as Chairman of the panel. After the panel has transmitted its report to me I will provide you with my decision on the DPV.

CONTACT: Robert L. O'Connell, NMSS/IMNS

(301) 415-7877

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