

June 20, 2000

The Honorable John Proud, Majority Leader
Oswego County Legislature
46 East Bridge Street
Oswego, NY 13126

SUBJECT: COMMENTARY ON RESPONSES TO DRY CASK STORAGE QUESTIONS

Dear Mr. Proud:

This is in response to your May 19, 2000, letter to Mr. William Kane in which you requested U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) commentary on responses received by you from the New York Power Authority (NYPA) and Dr. Andrew Kadak on certain dry cask storage questions. Staff has reviewed the responses and found the information to be reasonably accurate based on other licensee cask loading experiences and the technical aspects of the HI-STORM 100 storage system and HI-TRAC 125 transfer cask.

Actual radiation worker dose, construction times, and cask loading activities vary from site to site depending on plant specifics. As a part of the general licensing process under 10 CFR Part 72, NYPA is required to perform written evaluations of the planned dry storage site in accordance with 10 CFR 72.212. In these evaluations, NYPA is required to demonstrate that the Certificate of Compliance conditions have been met and radiological controls have been established. Furthermore, NYPA is required to perform pre-operational testing of the dry cask storage activities. The 10 CFR 72.212 evaluations and pre-operational testing activities are subject to NRC inspections prior to cask loading.

We look forward to meeting with Oswego County representatives and members of the public at a local informational meeting to discuss dry spent fuel storage at the James A. Fitzpatrick Nuclear Power Plant. If you have scheduled the informational meeting or have any questions regarding the information in this letter, please contact me or the cognizant Project Manager for this action, Mr. Stephen O'Connor, at 301-415-8500.

Sincerely,
/S/
E. William Brach, Director
Spent Fuel Project Office
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

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* - see previous concurrence

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