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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Savannah River Operations Office

ASSISTANT MANAGER FOR MATERIAL AND FACILITY STABILIZATION
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VERIFICATION NUMBER: 803-952-4121

TO: Gloria Bennington, NRC

cc: Norman Ravenscroft, TLI

FROM: Jean Ridley, P.E. 803 952-4522

As requested, attached is a letter from NY State EMD requesting a route change from the Peace Bridge to the Lewiston-Queenston Bridge.

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(not including cover sheet)

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Enclosure is public

New York State Emergency Management Office
1220 Washington Avenue
Building 22, Suite 101
Albany, NY 12226-2251

March 17, 2000

Jean Ridley
Nuclear Materials Management Division
US Dept of Energy Savannah River Operations Office
Road 1
P.O. Box A
Aiken, SC 29802

Dear Ms. Ridley,

The New York State Emergency Management Office (SEMO) has coordinated the review of the draft 2000 plan for the foreign research reactor spent nuclear fuel shipments. The agencies reviewing the draft plan include SEMO, New York State Thruway Authority, New York State Department of Transportation, New York State Police and the Niagara Falls Bridge Commission.

The following comments and questions are provided based upon the plan review:

1. The draft plan, Appendix 8.1, indicates the Peace Bridge would be used as the entry point into the US. It is recommended that the entry point utilize the Lewiston Queenston Bridge at Niagara Falls. The Lewiston Queenston is a better option for the following reasons: the Peace Bridge currently has a high political profile because of bridge expansion efforts, the Lewiston Queenston is situated in a lower residential population density area and has more area for conducting inspections when exiting customs. The Lewiston Queenston is routinely used for hazards materals shipments.

2. The Niagara Falls Bridge Commisson has responsibility for the Lewiston Queenston bridge. The Commision is recommending that the shipment times across the bridge be scheduled for the early morning hours to minimize the risk.

3. The draft plan did not indicate if the loads were overweight or overwidth .

4. New York State is requesting access to and training for the Transcom system.

5. The New York State Thruway Authority is reviewing the route for safe parking areas.

6. It is the intention of New York State to escort the load to the border, who will reimburse the for the cost of the service?

Please call me if you need more information on these issues at 518-457-8916.

Sincerely,

James Baranski
SEMO