

August 8, 2000

Dr. Ivan Itkin, Director
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management (RW)
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Dr. Itkin:

We understand the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is sponsoring research at the Argonne National Laboratory (ANL) under the Yucca Mountain Project (YMP) to determine the actinides and fission product composition of high burnup fuels. As you may know, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is also sponsoring research at the Argonne National Laboratory on high burnup fuels. The principal objective of this program is to characterize conditions and material behavior of high burnup cladding. Another objective is to develop the technical basis for evaluating the nuclide inventories for burnup credit application and license renewal of dry casks. We believe the actinides and fission product data obtained under the YMP program would contribute to meeting the latter objective. Obtaining the required information from DOE would prevent duplication of effort, and allow us to be more efficient by not having to allocate our resources to generate data that may already exist. Hence, I am requesting your assistance to have DOE provide us actinides and fission products data for high burnup fuels generated under the YMP program.

Should you need further information regarding this request, please contact Farouk Eltawila at 301-415-5741 or Sudhamay Basu at 301-415-6774.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Ashok C. Thadani, Director
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

cc: J. Price, DOE-RW/YMP
D. Stahl, FCF/YMP
R.E. Einziger, ANL
M.C. Billone, ANL

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