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(65FR 37712)

Office of
General
Adjudication

Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001
Attn: Rulemaking and Adjudications Staff

PPL SUSQUEHANNA, LLC
COMMENTS TO FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICE
TITLED, "INTERIM STORAGE FOR
GREATER THAN CLASS C WASTE"
PLA-5233

The purpose of this letter is to provide PPL Susquehanna, LLC comments on the NRC proposed rule, "Interim Storage for Greater Than Class C Waste." The proposed rule appeared in the Federal Register, Vol. 65, No. 117, dated June 16, 2000.

The NRC proposes to modify 10CFR72 and 10CFR150. The changes are necessary to allow the interim storage of NRC-licensed reactor-related greater than Class C (GTCC) waste within an independent spent fuel storage installation (ISFSI) or a monitored retrievable storage installation (MRS). The proposed rulemaking would permit GTCC waste to be stored at the ISFSI pending transfer to a permanent disposal facility.

Currently, while a 10CFR50 license is in effect, regulations permit a licensee to store spent fuel under either a general license pursuant to 10CFR72.210 or a specific license pursuant to 10CFR72. In addition, regulations permit a licensee to store GTCC waste under the 10CFR30 and 70 authority included in the 10CFR50 license. When the 10CFR50 license terminates, a licensee can continue to store spent fuel under a specific license pursuant to 10CFR72. However, the general license under 10CFR72.210 terminates when the 10CFR50 license terminates, and the licensee would need to apply for a specific license under 10CFR72 in order to continue to store spent fuel at the reactor site. Furthermore, the 10CFR30 and 70 licenses included in the 10CFR50 licenses terminate when the 10CFR50 license terminates. This forces the licensee to apply for a specific NRC license under 10CFR30 and/or 70 if the licensee needs to continue to store GTCC waste.

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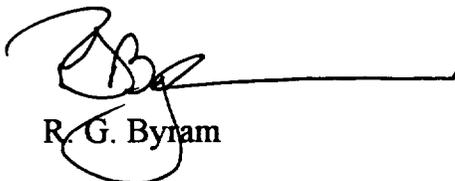
Under the proposed regulations, when the 10CFR50 license terminates, the licensee will have the option to store GTCC waste either under 10CFR72 or under 10CFR30 and 70. The proposed changes in this rulemaking would allow a 10CFR72-specific license to co-locate GTCC waste within an ISFSI or a MRS. Current 10CFR72-specific license holders would be required to submit an application to amend their 10CFR72 license, if they desire to store GTCC waste at their ISFSI.

PPL Susquehanna, LLC supports the NRC's proposed rulemaking on this initiative. The proposed rulemaking will clarify the way the NRC handles GTCC waste licensing matters. The licensing process to store spent fuel and GTCC waste (a) will be simpler, (b) will result in less regulatory burden on licensees, (c) will continue to consider the need to protect public health and safety, and (d) will allow these waste streams to be stored at an ISFSI or MRS under the authority of one 10CFR Part 72 license. We support the commingling of spent fuel and solid reactor-related GTCC in the same storage cask and within the same facility. We encourage the NRC to develop commingling storage criteria for 10CFR Part 72.

PPL Susquehanna, LLC appreciates the opportunity to comment on this important issue. We encourage the NRC to continue the development of the rulemaking which is prudent, practical, reasonable and consistent to assure that the interim storage for GTCC waste is fair and equitable to all involved stakeholders.

Please contact Mr. Robert Kichline at 610-774-7705 if there are questions concerning these comments.

Sincerely,



R. G. Byram

Copy to: NRC Region I
Mr. R. G. Schaaf, NRC Project Manager - OWFN
Mr. S. L. Hansell, NRC Sr. Resident Inspector, SSES