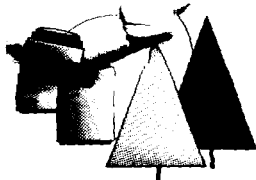


72-22



Private Fuel Storage, L.L.C.

*P.O. Box C4010, La Crosse, WI 54602-4010
Phone 303-741-7009 Fax: 303-741-7806
John L. Donnell, P.E., Project Director*

**Charles Haughney, Acting Director
Spent Fuel Project Office
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555**

**March 17, 1998
SWEC J.O. No. 05997.03
Letter No. S-O-02
File No. L1**

**RESPONSE TO JENNIFER HELM LETTER
DOCKET NO. 72-22 (TAC NO. L22462)
PRIVATE FUEL STORAGE FACILITY
PRIVATE FUEL STORAGE L.L.C.**

Ms. Jennifer Helm, a geologist from Salt Lake City, Utah, sent a letter, dated February 13, 1998, to Ms. Connie Nakahara, Utah Department of Environmental Quality, expressing concerns about the seismic and geology issues vis-a-vis the PFSF License Application. You and Mr. J. Parkyn (PFSLLC - Chairman) were copied on this letter. We have responded to Ms. Helm noting by letter that we had considered her concerns in our LA. Enclosed is the letter for your information.

Please contact me if you have any questions or require any further information at 303-741-7009.

Sincerely,

**John L. Donnell
Project Director**

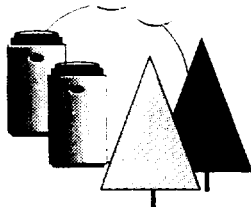
**Copy to: J. Parkyn
S. Northard
J. Silberg**

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Enclosure

JLD:WPH

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Private Fuel Storage, L.L.C.

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John L. Donnell, P.E., Project Director

Ms. Jennifer M. Helm
c/o AGRA Earth & Environmental, Inc.
4137 South 500 West
Salt Lake City, UT 84123

March 17, 1998

SWEC J.O. No. 05997.03
Letter No. S-O-01
File No. L1

RESPONSE TO LETTER DATED FEBRUARY 17, 1998 TO
JOHN D. PARKYN, PRIVATE FUEL STORAGE, L.L.C.
PRIVATE FUEL STORAGE FACILITY
PRIVATE FUEL STORAGE, L.L.C.

Dear Ms. Helm,

John Parkyn has forwarded to me your letter to him of February 17 enclosing your February 13 letter to Connie Nakahara. We appreciate hearing your concerns on the proposed interim spent fuel storage facility.

We have reviewed the information in your letter to Ms. Nakahara, and were aware of that information as we prepared the NRC license application for the interim storage facility. In fact, the license application specifically references the two papers that you authored which are cited in your letter. The license application also references papers by Arbasaz, et. al. (authors of the other Utah-specific reference you cite) which include the same information in the Arbasaz paper that you cite. With respect to our conclusion that the Stansbury fault is "capable" (as defined by NRC), we make that assumption in our license application and used your earthquake data in developing our design basis earthquake. The license application also specifically considers the seismic hazards that your letter identifies.

Again, we appreciate your interest in this project and would welcome any technical input which you believe should be considered with respect to the proposed facility.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 303-741-7009.

Sincerely,

John L. Donnell
Project Director

Copy to: J. Parkyn, S. Northard, J. Silberg