



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 26, 2001

MEMORANDUM FOR: Farouk Eltawila, Director
Division of Systems Analysis
and Regulatory Research
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

FROM: M. Wayne Hodges, Deputy Director */RA/*
Technical Review Directorate
Spent Fuel Project Office
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FROM MR. JASON
SCHAPEROW TO TRAIN SFPO PERSONNEL IN PERFORMING
REALISTIC CONSEQUENCE ANALYSES

As a follow-up to our January 25, 2001, discussion, the Spent Fuel Project Office (SFPO) is implementing a program plan to develop in-house capabilities to perform probabilistic risk assessments. This program is part of our ongoing initiatives to risk-inform our activities. One critical element in developing risk-informed programs is to perform realistic analyses that also quantify the uncertainties. One of your staff, Mr. Jason Schaperow, did a commendable job performing best-estimate evaluations on the deposition of radio nuclides within the HI-STORM dry cask storage system and associated consequence analyses. These analyses identified a potential of a factor of 400 conservatism in the licensing assumptions used for certifying storage casks. Excessive regulatory conservatism can lead to inappropriate public perception of the risk of dry storage casks located near their vicinity. Excessive regulatory conservatism can also lead to unnecessary burden to the industry.

SFPO is in the process of reviewing several industry applications for dry storage of spent nuclear fuel. We request the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research to assist in training our technical reviewers on the codes and methods for performing best-estimate offsite consequences analyses of dry storage spent nuclear fuel casks. We believe this training to be important in complying with the goals of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Strategic Plan. We would appreciate your assistance by making Mr. Schaperow available to assist in training our technical reviewers to perform and incorporate best-estimate consequence analyses in their reviews. With Mr. Schaperow's help, we hope to accomplish these goals on the schedule identified in the attachment.

Please coordinate Mr. Schaperow's assistance to SFPO with Mr. Jack Guttman, of my staff. Mr. Guttman may be reached at (301) 415-8510.

Your assistance in this matter is greatly appreciated.

cc: See attached

cc:

W.F. Kane, NMSS
A. Thadani, RES
W. Brach, NMSS
J. Flack, RES
C. Tinkler, RES
J. Schaperow, RES
J. Guttman, NMSS
E. Easton, NMSS

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OFFICE	SFPO	DD:SFPO		
NAME	JGuttman (MWH)	MWHodges		
DATE	01/26/2001	01/26/2001	/ /2001	/ /2001

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