

May 15, 2001

Mr. Robert M. Grenier
President and Chief Operating Officer
Transnuclear West Inc.
39300 Civic Center Drive, Suite 280
Fremont, CA 94538-2324

SUBJECT: SCHEDULE FOR REVIEW OF THE STANDARDIZED NUHOMS®
SYSTEM LOW BURN-UP FUEL AMENDMENT
(TAC NO. L23277)

Dear Mr.Grenier:

This responds to Transnuclear West Inc.'s (TN-West) February 23, 2001, application to amend Certificate of Compliance (CoC) No. 1004, in accordance with 10 CFR Part 72, to allow the storage of low burn-up fuel in the Standardized NUHOMS® System. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) schedule to perform the subject review.

The schedule establishes the key milestones and dates associated with the subject application through calendar year 2001. With your assistance, the staff's goal is to issue, by August 20, 2001, the preliminary Safety Evaluation Report (SER) and CoC. The direct final rulemaking process will then follow the issuance of the preliminary SER and CoC.

This letter is also to inform you that the staff has completed its initial acceptance review of the application. The staff found that the application contains sufficient information for the staff to initiate its review. Please note that this review only determined that the information was submitted in accordance with the guidelines established in NUREG-1536, "Standard Review Plan for Dry Cask Storage Systems." The acceptance review was not intended to determine the technical adequacy of the application.

The following schedule will be periodically reviewed and updated as significant milestones are completed or as corrections to the milestones are needed to reflect NRC's casework prioritization.

Standardized NUHOMS® System Low Burn-up Fuel Amendment Schedule

<u>MILESTONES</u>	<u>DATES</u>
1. TN-West Application Received	Completed
2. NRC Acceptance Review, Issue Schedule	Completed
3. NRC Generates 1 st Request for Additional Information (RAI)	7/30/01 Target
4. RAI Meeting Scheduled, if needed	8/14/01 Actual date may vary
5. TN-West responds to 1 st RAI	8/31/01 Target
6. NRC Issue SER and amended CoC	10/15/01 Target

As discussed with your staff on several occasions since receipt of your application, due to a lack of sufficient justification for the staff to elevate the priority of the review, this schedule does not meet your requested date of July 30, 2001. In addition, since receipt of the application, TN-West has not submitted additional justification to raise the priority of the review.

To meet the above schedule TN-West must respond promptly and comprehensively to staff RAIs. Staff initiatives to enhance the efficiency of the review process include the designation of specific teams to perform assigned technical reviews. Since designated review team activities rely on high quality applications and timely responses, any delays by TN-West may result in significant impacts to the overall review schedule due to the team being diverted to other work. The schedule is based on the staff issuing only one RAI. Should the staff determine that a second RAI is necessary to complete a review, it will result in rescheduling the remainder of the review. Please notify me in writing, at least two weeks in advance of any milestone, of any instance which may result in your inability to meet the above schedule.

Please reference Docket No. 72-1004 and TAC No. L23277 in future correspondence related to this licensing action. If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-8538.

Sincerely,
/RA/ original signed by /s/
Timothy Kobetz, Project Manager
Licensing Section
Spent Fuel Project Office
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-1004
TAC No. L23277

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Docket No. 72-1004
 TAC No. L23277

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