

August 13, 2001

Mr. Clinton Bastin
987 Viscount Court
Avondale Estates, GA 30002

Dear Mr. Bastin:

I am responding to your letter to Chairman Meserve dated July 17, 2001. Thank you for sending us the background information on reprocessing nuclear fuels. As you are aware, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) would be responsible for licensing a commercial nuclear fuel reprocessing facility. Such a facility would be licensed under 10 CFR Part 50. If such a facility is proposed, NRC would ensure that it is constructed and operated to provide the protection of public health and safety and the environment. We agree with you that in considering future reprocessing options, industry and government need to consider the full range of past experience, including that from the Savannah River Site. We also agree with you the proliferation issues need careful consideration as well.

Monthly we conduct a colloquim for our staff who regulate nuclear fuel facilities on interesting and important matters that affect the industry. We would welcome the opportunity to hear your views on reprocessing and would like to extend an invitation to you to speak at one of our colloquims as an invited speaker with an expertise in reprocessing. Unfortunately we can not extend to you funds to pay for your travel cost, or any professional fees. However, if in the future you will be in the Washington, DC, area and would consider making a 1 to 1½ hour presentation on reprocessing to our staff, please contact me at 301-415-7299.

Sincerely,
/RA/

Timothy C. Johnson
Deputy MOX Project Manager
Special Projects Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety
and Safeguards
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

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