

October 4, 2001

Dr. Jill Lipoti, Assistant Director  
Radiation Protection Programs  
Division of Environmental Safety, Health,  
and Analytical Programs  
Department of Environmental Protection  
P.O. Box 415  
Trenton, NJ 08625

SUBJECT: NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION LETTER  
DATED SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

Dear Dr. Lipoti:

The purpose of this letter is to respond to your September 11, 2001, letter to the Secretary, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). In addition, Spent Fuel Project Office (SFPO) would like to thank you and your staff for participating in the August 9, 2001, meeting regarding the use of dry cask storage at the Oyster Creek Nuclear Plant.

In your September 11, 2001, letter you outlined five follow-up comments to the August 9, 2001, meeting. The staff has reviewed those comments and will take them under consideration as follows:

1. SFPO CONTACTS: SFPO agrees that clear lines of communication between our organizations must be maintained. The contacts for any future questions you have pertaining to the Oyster Creek independent spent fuel storage installation (ISFSI) are as follows:  
  
Tim Kobetz, (301) 415-8538, for technical issues involving Standardized NUHOMS® System. On September 12, 2001, NRC completed rulemaking associated with the amendment to add the 61BT dry shielded canister to the Standardized NUHOMS® System.  
  
Steve O'Connor, (301) 415-8561, for issues involving the use of the Standardized NUHOMS® System at the Oyster Creek ISFSI under a general license in accordance with 10 CFR Part 72.
2. NRC INSPECTIONS AT OYSTER CREEK: Your staff should continue direct contact with NRC Region I for all issues regarding the inspection of dry cask storage activities at the Oyster Creek ISFSI.
3. TECHNICAL MEETINGS: SFPO staff will work with your staff to resolve questions and concerns that your staff may have regarding the use of the Standardized NUHOMS® System at Oyster Creek. However, to ensure that SFPO can efficiently respond to your questions and to ensure the appropriate technical staff will be available to answer

questions your staff may have, we request that prior to any meetings, your staff submit questions in writing in a manner similar to those submitted for the meeting on August 9, 2001.

4. **FABRICATION INSPECTIONS:** Transnuclear West, Inc. (TN-West) and the licensee are ultimately responsible for quality assurance of the fabrication of the Standardized NUHOMS® System regardless of where it is fabricated. During fabrication both TN-West, the certificate holder and fabricator of the Standardized NUHOMS® System, and the licensee have inspectors onsite to independently inspect portions of the activities. Based on previous inspections of design and fabrication activities, SFPO has found TN-West to be in compliance with the requirements of 10 CFR Part 72. These inspections have been performed both at TN-West corporate offices and at fabrication facilities. SFPO is currently evaluating future inspection resources and priorities. SFPO will take your request for inspection of the fabrication of the NUHOMS® 61BT canisters under consideration as it evaluates its inspection priorities.
5. **MEETING SUMMARY:** The summary of the August 9, 2001, meeting can be found in ADAMS at Accession No. ML012430205 and is also enclosed.

I hope this letter adequately addressed the comments of your September 11, 2001, letter to the Secretary. Please contact Tim Kobetz with any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,  
**/RA/ original signed by /s/**  
E. William Brach, Director  
Spent Fuel Project Office  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket Nos: 72-1004, 72-15

Enclosure: Meeting Summary

cc: w/o enclosure:  
Service List

J. Lipoti

-2-

questions your staff may have, we request that prior to any meetings, your staff submit questions in writing in a manner similar to those submitted for the meeting on August 9, 2001.

- 6. **FABRICATION INSPECTIONS:** Transnuclear West, Inc. (TN-West) and the licensee are ultimately responsible for quality assurance of the fabrication of the Standardized NUHOMS® System regardless of where it is fabricated. During fabrication both TN-West, the certificate holder and fabricator of the Standardized NUHOMS® System, and the licensee have inspectors onsite to independently inspect portions of the activities. Based on previous inspections of design and fabrication activities, SFPO has found TN-West to be in compliance with the requirements of 10 CFR Part 72. These inspections have been performed both at TN-West corporate offices and at fabrication facilities. SFPO is currently evaluating future inspection resources and priorities. SFPO will take your request for inspection of the fabrication of the NUHOMS® 61BT canisters under consideration as it evaluates its inspection priorities.
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Docket	NRC File Center	PUBLIC	NMSS r/f	SFPO r/f
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JGuttman	AVietti-Cook, SEC	Oyster Creek, SRI	MTokar	PEng

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<b>OFC</b>	SFPO	C	SFPO		SFPO		SFPO		SFPO	
<b>NAME</b>	TKobetz		EZiegler		JDavis		CMiller		EWBrach	
<b>DATE</b>	09/21/01		09/21/01		09/24/01		10/03/01		10/04/01	

**OFFICIAL RECORD COPY**

Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station

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