

November 13, 2001

The Honorable Joe Barton, Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality
Committee on Energy and Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) intends to publish a direct final rule, in the Federal Register, that will amend the "List of approved spent fuel storage casks" (10 CFR 72.214). NRC is approving the revision of the BNFL Fuel Solutions (FuelSolutions™) cask system (as amended) for storage of spent fuel under the new conditions specified in the revised Certificate of Compliance (CoC). Amendment No. 2 to the FuelSolutions™ cask system CoC would modify the Technical Specifications (TS) to provide an alternative to returning the W74 canister to the spent fuel building, to clarify the description of the other non-fissile material permitted to be stored in the W74 canister, and to revise the temperatures to correspond to the liner thermocouples. Specific changes would be made to TS Tables 2.1-3 and 2.1-4; TS 3.3.2 and 3.3.3; and the bases for TS 3.3.2 and 3.3.3. No changes would be made to the conditions of the CoC. This cask system, when used in accordance with the conditions specified in the CoC and NRC regulations, will meet the requirements of 10 CFR Part 72; thus, adequate protection of public health and safety is ensured. This cask system is being revised under 10 CFR 72.214, "List of approved spent fuel storage casks" and continues to allow holders of power reactor operating licenses to store spent fuel in the cask system under a general license.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Dennis K. Rathbun, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure:
Federal Register notice

cc: Representative Rick Boucher

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Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality
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Identical Letter sent to The Honorable Harry Reid with a cc to Senator James M. Inhofe

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Allen Howe

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November 13, 2001

The Honorable Harry Reid, Chairman
Subcommittee on Transportation, Infrastructures,
and Nuclear Safety
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) intends to publish a direct final rule, in the Federal Register, that will amend the "List of approved spent fuel storage casks" (10 CFR 72.214). NRC is approving the revision of the BNFL Fuel Solutions (FuelSolutions™) cask system (as amended) for storage of spent fuel under the new conditions specified in the revised Certificate of Compliance (CoC). Amendment No. 2 to the FuelSolutions™ cask system CoC would modify the Technical Specifications (TS) to provide an alternative to returning the W74 canister to the spent fuel building, to clarify the description of the other non-fissile material permitted to be stored in the W74 canister, and to revise the temperatures to correspond to the liner thermocouples. Specific changes would be made to TS Tables 2.1-3 and 2.1-4; TS 3.3.2 and 3.3.3; and the bases for TS 3.3.2 and 3.3.3. No changes would be made to the conditions of the CoC. This cask system, when used in accordance with the conditions specified in the CoC and NRC regulations, will meet the requirements of 10 CFR Part 72; thus, adequate protection of public health and safety is ensured. This cask system is being revised under 10 CFR 72.214, "List of approved spent fuel storage casks" and continues to allow holders of power reactor operating licenses to store spent fuel in the cask system under a general license.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Dennis K. Rathbun, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs

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cc: Senator James M. Inhofe