



# B&W FUEL COMPANY

An American Company with Worldwide Resources

# BW

P.O. Box 11646  
Lynchburg, VA 24506-1646  
Telephone: 804-522-6000

May 2, 1994

Charles J. Haughney, Chief  
Transportation Branch  
Division of Safeguards  
and Transportation, NMSS  
Division of Industrial and Medical  
Nuclear Safety, NMSS  
United States Nuclear Regulatory  
Commission  
Washington D.C., 20555

Dear Mr. Haughney:

REFERENCE: Docket 71-6206, USA/6206/AF

B&W Fuel Company (BWFC) ships fresh fuel assemblies in the above referenced container. On April 28, 1994, it was identified that part 21 on drawing PE-53 revision 3 stated that the material was cork. Cork has not been used for sometime. Cork was used to cover the stainless steel plates (both the horizontal and vertical plate) on which the fuel assemblies rest. The fuel assembly's plastic wrapper was adhering to the cork material causing the cork to crumble. Therefore, the cork was replaced with neoprene. However, it was not recognized that the licensed drawing needed to be revised to reflect the change in material.

The use of neoprene instead of cork has no safety significance. The cork material was placed on the plate to provide a cushioning for the fuel assembly to rest against during shipment to ensure that the quality of the product was maintained. In addition, the criticality analysis for the 4.6% enrichment application modeled the container with neoprene not cork.

Please replace drawing PE-53 revision 3 with the provided revision 4 and modify the C of C accordingly. If you should have any further questions regarding this issue, please feel free to call me at (804) 386-5202. Thank you.

Sincerely,

B&W FUEL COMPANY  
Commercial Nuclear Fuel Plant

*Kathryn S. Knapp*  
Kathryn S. Knapp  
Manager, Safety & Licensing

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**DWG. NO. PE-52 F, REV. 4  
"STRONGBACK ASS'Y AND  
DETAILS"**

**WITHIN THIS PACKAGE...OR,  
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