

August 22, 1997

Mr. Richard A. Guida, Associate Director for
Regulatory Affairs
Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program
Naval Sea Systems Command
Department of the Navy
2531 Jefferson Davis Highway
Arlington, Virginia 22242-5160

SUBJECT: INFORMATION ON NAVAL SPENT FUEL REQUEST

Dear Mr. Guida:

In a letter dated July 7, 1997, the Department of the Navy (DON) provided the Spent Fuel Project Office (SFPO) with information on naval spent nuclear fuel (SNF) that it had also provided to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) as part of DOE's scoping process for an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) regarding a proposed geologic repository for SNF and other high-level radioactive waste (HLW) at Yucca Mountain, Nevada. SFPO has subsequently provided this information to the staff of the Division of Waste Management (DWM), who are responsible for oversight of DOE's geologic repository program for the disposal of SNF and HLW.

The staff are pleased to receive this information and will evaluate it as part of their pre-licensing consultations with DOE on waste form issues. However, because the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is required to review and adopt any EIS submitted as part of a potential DOE geologic repository license application, including information on naval SNF, the staff does not intend to formally review and comment on this information at this time. As suggested in your recent letter, members of our respective staffs (R. Weller/DWM and E. Naples/DON) are in the process of scheduling a meeting to discuss this information on a classified basis.

If you have any further questions on this matter, please contact Dr. Richard Weller of my staff. He can be reached by telephone at (301) 415-7287.

Sincerely,
(Originals/by...)
N. King Stablein, Acting Chief
Engineering and Geosciences Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

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cc: A. Gil/DOE

TICKET: DWM-194

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| OFC | PAHL | PAHL | ENGB | ENGB | | |
| NAME | MLee <i>ML</i> | SWester <i>SW</i> | RWeller <i>RAW</i> | KStablein | | |
| DATE | 8/10/97 | 8/11/97 | 8/12/97 | 1/197 | | 1/197 |

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