



Progress Energy

Serial: RNP-RA/03-0148

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Mr. L. Raynard Wharton
Spent Fuel Project Office, NMSS
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
11555 Rockville Pike M/S O13-D-13
Rockville, MD 20852

H. B. ROBINSON STEAM ELECTRIC PLANT, UNIT NO. 2
DOCKET NO. 50-261/LICENSE NO. DPR-23

INFORMATION RELATED TO THE REVIEW PRIORITY FOR
NUHOMS CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE NO. 1004, AMENDMENT NO. 8

Dear Mr. Wharton:

In a letter dated September 19, 2003 from Transnuclear Inc. (TN) to the NRC Spent Fuel Project Office, TN applied for Amendment No. 8 of the NUHOMS Certificate of Compliance (CoC) No. 1004 for Dry Spent Fuel Storage Casks, Revision 0. The purpose of the amendment is to add the NUHOMS-24PTH system to the CoC.

The purpose of this letter is to provide additional information, specific to H. B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant (HBRSEP), Unit No. 2, that may assist the NRC staff in establishing the review priority of the referenced amendment request.

HBRSEP, Unit No. 2, is in the process of designing and installing an onsite Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI). HBRSEP, Unit No. 2, has contracted with TN to provide the dry spent fuel storage casks for this ISFSI. Due to the burnup range of the fuel planned to be stored in the ISFSI, and the desire to ship fuel directly from the ISFSI to a permanent repository, the system intended to be used is the NUHOMS-24PTH.

HBRSEP, Unit No. 2, is scheduled to complete preparations and perform the first loading campaign for this ISFSI prior to receipt of new fuel for the fall 2005 refueling outage. This is required to preserve full core off-load capacity in the spent fuel storage pool following that outage. Until now, HBRSEP, Unit No. 2, has been able to maintain full core off-load capability through spent fuel shipments from HBRSEP, Unit No. 2, to the Harris Nuclear Plant using the IF-300 shipping casks. However, the IF-300 shipping casks will not be licensed for transportation of spent fuel after their license expires in 2005. Therefore, spent fuel shipments must be discontinued and onsite dry storage is needed.

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission

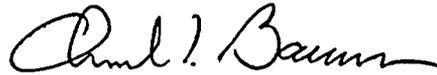
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Based on the above, HBRSEP, Unit No. 2, requests that the NRC establish a review priority for NUHOMS CoC No. 1004, Amendment No. 8, that will support the above-described loading campaign.

If you have any questions on this subject, please contact me at (843) 857-1253.

Sincerely,



C. T. Baucom

Supervisor - Licensing/Regulatory Programs

RAC/rac

- c: L. A. Reyes, NRC, Region II
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