

January 14, 2004

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) is publishing, in the Federal Register, a direct final rule that will amend the "List of approved spent fuel storage casks" (10 CFR 72.214). NRC is approving the revision of the NAC International, Inc., NAC-UMS (as amended) cask system for storage of spent fuel under the new conditions specified in the revised Certificate of Compliance (CoC). This amendment adds an alternate poison material, revises the structural analysis, revises the thermal analyses, revises fuel assembly weight and dimensions, and revises allowable fuel cladding temperature. The amendment also revises the criticality analyses and reorganizes the Safety Analysis Report Criticality Section, revises Technical Specification A.5.5 to remove the effluent reporting requirements, and makes several editorial and administrative changes. No other changes to the NAC-UMS cask system design were requested in this application.

The NAC-UMS cask system, as amended, 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 will continue 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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Identical Letter sent to The Honorable George V. Voinovich with cc: to Senator Thomas Carper

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January 14, 2004

The Honorable George V. Voinovich, Chairman
Subcommittee on Clean Air, Climate Change,
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) is publishing, in the Federal Register, a direct final rule that will amend the "List of approved spent fuel storage casks" (10 CFR 72.214). NRC is approving the revision of the NAC International, Inc., NAC-UMS (as amended) cask system for storage of spent fuel under the new conditions specified in the revised Certificate of Compliance (CoC). This amendment adds an alternate poison material, revises the structural analysis, revises the thermal analyses, revises fuel assembly weight and dimensions, and revises allowable fuel cladding temperature. The amendment also revises the criticality analyses and reorganizes the Safety Analysis Report Criticality Section, revises Technical Specification A.5.5 to remove the effluent reporting requirements, and makes several editorial and administrative changes. No other changes to the NAC-UMS cask system design were requested in this application.

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Office of Congressional Affairs

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cc: Senator Thomas Carper