DOCKET NO. 50-39 & 70-

File cy.

CURTISS-WRIGHT CORPORATION
RESEARCH DIVISION
QUEHANNA, PENNSYLVANIA
AMHERST 3-4711

February 24, 1958

Mr. Lyall Johnson
Licensing Branch
Division of Licensing and Regulations
United States Atomic Energy Commission
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Johnson:

The present fuel element inventory for the Curtiss-Wright Research Reactor amounts to a total of thirty-two (32) including four (4) special elements to receive the control rods. In the very near future we would like to obtain two (2) more of these rod elements. We feel this should be done so that we will have a complete set of spare elements on hand. At the present we have spares only for the standard ten plate elements containing one hundred seventy (170) grams of highly enriched U-235.

Sylvania-Corning Nuclear Corporation fabricated the thirty-two elements now held by us under License SNM-172. We have been informed that they have sufficient uranium on hand from our original allocation of six (6) kilograms of U-235 to make the two additional rod elements. Each of these would contain one hundred and two (102) grams of U-235. I am writing to inquire as to what steps must be taken to permit us to have two more elements fabricated and then to store and utilize these elements in our reactor.

It appears to me that a number of revisions or amendments might be necessary. Those that come to mind include:

1) revise Schedule 2 of Appendix "A" to Curtiss-Wright's Construction Permit, Docket No. F-38, to show return of 1.3 kg. of U-235 as recoverable scrap in 1958, rather than 1.5 kg. in 1957.

2) amend our application for a class 104 facility license and a special nuclear material license to utilize in our reactor the special nuclear material contained in the fuel elements.

This would mean a change in Report No. CWR 400-2, "Hazards Evaluation Report, Curtiss-Wright Research Reactor," to indicate there would be 34 rather then 32 elements, and a total inventory of 4.7 kg. U-235 rather than 4.5 kg.

Will you kindly advise me in what form the required applications should be submitted in order to make their processing as simple as possible for you. We are most anxious to tell Sylcor to proceed with fabrication of the two new rod elements so that the remainder of our U-235 allocation may be returned to the Commission as soon as possible.

Very truly yours,

CURTISS-WRIGHT CORPORATION
RESEARCH DIVISION

Carlyle J. Roberts

Carlyle J. Roberts
Chief
Research Reactor Division

CJR:bb