



Westinghouse Electric Company
Nuclear Fuel
Columbia Fuel Site
P.O. Drawer R
Columbia, South Carolina 29250
USA

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mr. Luis A. Reyes
Regional Administrator, Region II
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Our ref LTR-RAC-04-13

April 27, 2004

**SUBJECT: WESTINGHOUSE COLUMBIA FUEL FABRICATION FACILITY INCINERATION
PROCESS UPDATE**

As a result of discussions with your Staff, this letter formally documents the Westinghouse Columbia Fuel Fabrication Facility commitment to obtain **NRC** concurrence prior to restart of the incineration process.

The incinerator was shutdown by Westinghouse personnel on March 4, 2004 following the discovery of a higher than expected accumulation and concentration of uranium bearing material in the incinerator off-gas system. This process condition was reported under the NKC Bulletin 91-01 notification criteria, as detailed in approved procedures.

Westinghouse is currently evaluating the incinerator process equipment to determine the extent of repairs that will be necessary **prior to** restart. In addition, a detailed restart action plan, including implementation of recommendations **from** the Root Cause Analysis (RCA) and correction of items resulting from the April 12 - 16, 2004 NRC Inspection # 2004-001, is being developed. Westinghouse will keep NRC informed of the action plan and will obtain NRC concurrence prior to restart of the incineration process.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please call me directly at (803) 647-3451.

Sincerely,

WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC COMPANY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Samuel G. McDonald', written over a printed name.

Samuel G. McDonald
Manager, Environment, Health and Safety
Columbia Fuel Fabrication Facility

cc: U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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