

September 15, 2004

FROM: Christopher L. Brown
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THRU: Larry Campbell, Section Chief /RA/
Technical Review Section B
Spent Fuel Project Office, NMSS

TO: M. Wayne Hodges, Deputy Director
Technical Review Directorate
Spent Fuel Project Office, NMSS

SUBJECT: REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF POSTER AND TECHNICAL PAPER FOR THE
2004 INTERNATIONAL MEETING ON LIGHT WATER REACTOR FUEL
PERFORMANCE IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA, SEPTEMBER 19-22, 2004

I will be participating in a poster session at the international conference on nuclear fuel "2004 International Meeting on Light Water Reactor Fuel Performance Meeting" in Orlando, Florida, September 19-22, 2004. The poster is based on a technical paper (Attachment) prepared by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff and contractors from the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. The technical paper presents an analysis that hydride-reorientation in low-burnup fuel is not a safety concern when operated in accordance with our current guidance contained in Interim Staff Guidance-11 (ISG-11, Revision 3). Also, the technical paper concludes that the intent of ISG-11, Revision 3, was maintained and that hydride-reorientation was not a safety concern in low-burnup fuel.

There are no sensitive policy issues and no new policy issues to be discussed or presented in the paper. Information presented in the technical paper is contained in NRC documents presently available to the public. Other ongoing revisions to ISG-11 will not be discussed.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact me no later than September 17, 2004. I will be leaving for travel starting on September 19, 2004.

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