

April 19, 2005

MEMORANDUM TO: Brian Thomas, Acting Deputy Director  
Licensing and Inspection Directorate  
Spent Fuel Project Office, NMSS

FROM: Jose R. Cuadrado, Project Engineer  
Licensing Section /RA/  
Spent Fuel Project Office, NMSS

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MARCH 24, 2005, MEETING WITH WESTINGHOUSE  
NUCLEAR FUEL

On March 24, 2005, staff from the Spent Fuel Project Office (SFPO) met with representatives of Westinghouse Nuclear Fuel division. The purpose of the meeting was to provide an overview of NRC's needs for information related to spent fuel cladding behavior data and to discuss Westinghouse's research activities on fuel cladding design and performance. At Westinghouse's request, their discussion portion of the meeting was closed to the public since it contained proprietary information. No regulatory decisions were made nor requested. The meeting was noticed on March 9, 2005.

During the first portion of the meeting, SFPO staff presented a summary of the proposed outcomes of the meeting. The staff presented an overview of the applicable regulations for the storage and transport of spent nuclear fuel, the current and proposed guidance to applicants, and a discussion on emerging issues related to spent fuel cladding materials. During this discussion, the staff provided an overview of its current regulatory position on the definition of intact and damaged spent fuel cladding, its current sources of data supporting these positions, and the limitations and uncertainty it faces with the currently available data. Therefore, the staff expressed its interest in learning more about Westinghouse's fuel cladding material qualification and research programs, and in determining the applicability of these to current SFPO research needs.

During the second part of the meeting, representatives from Westinghouse presented a summary of their nuclear fuel design activities. In its presentation, Westinghouse provided an overview of their current fuel rod designs and the evolutions in the selection of fuel rod cladding material. Also, Westinghouse discussed the process of assessing fuel cladding performance, which included a discussion of the specific fuel performance parameters they observe and measure, and their respective relevance to the integrity of spent fuel during dry storage conditions. Another topic discussed during the meeting was Westinghouse's ongoing fuel cladding material research program. Westinghouse explained to the staff the scope of past and current fuel testing and research programs, which include several programs designed to assess irradiated fuel cladding behavior and performance. The staff expressed its interest in obtaining the results of these particular programs, to which Westinghouse expressed no objections. In addition, Westinghouse discussed with SFPO staff the possibility of cost-sharing some of their planned and ongoing research projects with NRC, an opportunity that would help SFPO obtain any necessary spent fuel cladding materials data to inform current and future regulatory guidance.

B. Thomas

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The non-proprietary meeting handout and attendance list are attached.

TAC No. L20770

Attachments: 1. Attendance List  
2. Meeting Handout

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TAC No. L20770

- Attachments: 1. Attendance List  
2. Meeting Handout

DISTRIBUTION:

NRC Attendees

MDeBose

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<b>OFC:</b>	SFPO	E	SFPO		SFPO	
<b>NAME:</b>	JCuadrado		MDeBose		RLewis	
<b>DATE:</b>	04/14/05		04/15/05		04/19/05	

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

**Meeting between Westinghouse Nuclear Fuel  
and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission**

**NRC Headquarters**

**March 24, 2005**

**ATTENDANCE LIST**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>ORGANIZATION</b>
Jose Cuadrado	NRC/NMSS/SFPO
Wayne Hodges	NRC/NMSS/SFPO
Robert Einziger	NRC/NMSS/SFPO
Chris Brown	NRC/NMSS/SFPO
Gordon Bjokman	NRC/NMSS/SFPO
Mahendra Shah	NRC/NMSS/SFPO
Jerry Chuang	NRC/NMSS/SFPO
Charles Interrante	NRC/NMSS/SFPO
Geoff Hornseth	NRC/NMSS/SFPO
Bob Tripathi	NRC/NMSS/SFPO
Henry Lee	NRC/NMSS/SFPO
Mike Karmis	NRC/NMSS/SFPO
Harold Scott	NRC/RES
William Slagle	Westinghouse Nuclear Fuel
John Foster	Westinghouse Nuclear Fuel
Rob Sisk	Westinghouse Nuclear Fuel
David Mitchell	Westinghouse Nuclear Fuel