May 21, 1964

Files

Richard H. Odegaarden Criticality Branch Division of Materials Licensing

UNITED NUCLEAR CORPORATION, CHEMICALS DIVISION - U(93.5)02 - ZFO2 BLENDING - DOCKET NO. 70-36, MAY 20, 1964

During the telecon between Mr. L. J. Swallow of UNC and me, May 20, 1964, Swallow asked if 27 w/o U(93.5)0₂-73 w/o ZrO₂ mixture could be handled and processed as 27 w/o U-235 enriched uranium exide when mixed with hydrogenous materials.

I informed Swallow that I know of no criticality data that would allow him to do this. Zirconium is a reactor material and, therefore, must have a low neutron capture cross section. I suggested he compare the nuclear properties of U-238, which has a very high resonance capture cross section, to that of zirconium.

cc: D. A. Nussbaumer, ML

6.192