

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Files

DATE: August 5, 1964

FROM : Lyall Johnson, Acting Director  
Division of Materials Licensing

9

SUBJECT: UNITED NUCLEAR CORPORATION, WOOD RIVER JUNCTION, RHODE ISLAND -  
DOCKET 70-820

On August 3, 1964, at the close of a telephone conversation concerning another matter, Dr. David Shearer, U. S. Public Health Service, Cincinnati, Ohio, casually remarked about the UNC criticality accident of 7-24-64. He said -- apparently expressing his personal opinion -- that "it was not totally unexpected". He added: "The glass-metal connections left a lot to be desired". He said he had visited the plant twice prior to the accident. I made no comments to Dr. Shearer concerning either the accident or his statements (quoted above).

Dr. Shearer is employed by the Physical and Engineering Services Unit, Technical Advisory and Investigations Section, Technical Services Branch, Water Supply Pollution Control, U. S. Public Health Service, 4676 Columbia Parkway, Cincinnati, Ohio.

cc: Harold L. Price, REG  
Marvin M. Mann, REG  
L. D. Low, CO (2)

6-2