

b) Mark

From: "Paul Blanch" [redacted]] Ex 6
To: "Brian McCabe" <bcm@nrc.gov>
Date: Wed, Oct 3, 2001 3:35 PM
Subject: FW: Decommissioning SFP Security

FYI

Paul M. Blanch

[redacted]

] Ex 6

-----Original Message-----

From: Stuart Richards [mailto:SAR@nrc.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2001 9:58 AM
To: pmb Blanch@home.com
Subject: Decommissioning SFP Security

Mr. Blanch

I am responding to your question regarding whether SFP's at decommissioning sites other than Millstone Unit 1 are no longer considered vital areas. The answer is yes. This may seem confusing given all the recent discussion about the potential for zirc fires. However note that the occurrence of a zirc fire in a SFP is a beyond design basis event. It has become an issue with decommissioning plants because of their desire to reduce the various requirements associated with SFP's. For example, the earthquake considered in the NRC's risk study of decommissioning SFP's considered a 3 times SSE earthquake, clearly beyond design basis.

Nonetheless, note that NUREG-1738, "Technical Study of Spent Fuel Pool Accident Risk at Decommissioning Nuclear Power Plants," on page xi finds that security requirement revisions need to be considered in light of the conclusions of the study. SECY-01-0100, dated June 4, 2001, provides the Commission a discussion on policy options with regard to security at decommissioning plants. I believe that the Commission still has this SECY under consideration.

In summary, SFP's at decommissioning plants are not all considered vital areas at present. The Commission is considering whether security requirements at decommissioning plants should be revised.

Hopefully this responds to your question.

Stu Richards
301-415-1395

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