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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D. C. 20005

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Docket No. 40-8027 License No. SUB-1010 EA 90-158 NOV 5 1990

Sequoyah Fuels Corporation ATTN: Mr. Reau Graves, Jr., President P.O. Box 610 Gore, Oklahoma 74435

Dear Mr. Graves:

On August 22, 1990, Sequeyah Fuels Corporation (SFC) notified NRC Region IV that uranium contaminated water had been discovered in an open excavation immediately adjacent to the solvent extraction (SX) building at the SFC site. Since that report was received, NRC followup activities relative to this matter have included an Augmented Inspection Team (Inspection Report 90-04 dated October 11, 1990), extensive inspection coverage by NRC since the restart of SFC operations on September 14, 1990, and ongoing inquiries by the NRC Office of Investigations into related matters.

While these NRC review activities have not been concluded, they have progressed to the point where NRC is concerned that certain aspects of the SFC safety and environmental programs are not operating in full accord with NRC requirements and with due regard for adequate protection of the public health and safety. Therefore, you are required to respond to the enclosed Demand for Information in accordance with the instructions provided therein. This information is necessary to determine whether to modify, suspend or revoke your NRC license, and/or whether to renew your license.

This letter also acknowledges receipt of a letter dated October 25, 1990, from your legal counsel, Ira S. Shapiro, Winthrop, Stimson, Putnam & Roberts, to William C. Parler, NRC General Counsel. In this letter, Mr. Shapiro requests a meeting between his firm and representatives of NRC to discuss issues involved in the NRC investigation of this incident. The NRC intends to schedule a meeting with appropriate management personnel of Sequoyah Fuels Corporation following receipt of your response to Section V. A. of the Demand for Information.

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Mr. Reau Graves, Jr., President

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In accordance with Section 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, a copy of this letter will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

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Sincerely,

Hudh L. Thompson Πr.

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Depity Executive Director for Nuclear Materials Safety, Safeguards, and Operations Support

Enclosure: Demand for Information

cc: Ira S. Shapiro, Esq. Winthrop, Stimson, Putnam & Roberts 1133 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20036

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Mr. J. Dale McHard, Chief Environmental Engineer Consumer Protection Service State Department of Health P. O. Box 53551 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73152