



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 5, 2004

MEMORANDUM TO: Neville Whiting
Section Head, OB1
IAEA

FROM: Brian Horn
Safeguards Analyst
U.S. NRC

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brian H. Horn".

SUBJECT: UZOO EQUIPMENT PROBLEMS

I wish to extend our appreciation to the Agency for getting an inspector to UZOO to correct the IAEA equipment problem that was identified around 8:00 a.m., on February 16, 2004. The UZOO operator confirmed the IAEA inspector arrived late last night and had the problem corrected around 11:45 p.m.

The BWXT management has expressed concern that the IAEA inspector arrived at the downblending facility more than 38-hours after our notification to the IAEA. BWXT management stated that during the shutdown period, while BWXT awaited arrival of the IAEA inspector, the BWXT downblending operations staff were sent home and thus received reduced or no pay for these five work shifts. Would you please clarify why the IAEA inspector was unable to arrive within 32-hours as was agreed between the U.S. and IAEA for IAEA equipment problems requiring suspension of processing. Do you have any thoughts as to how we can prevent future extended shutdowns and reduce the impacts on the operator of IAEA equipment failures?

We received your February 11, 2004, fax containing the proposed maintenance and upgrading activities for 2004 and forwarded a copy to BWXT. The lists of technicians submitted to us in December and February were approved for activities in the U.S. Thank you.

B/H