



UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION P. O. BOX 324, TUXEDO, NEW YORK 10987
 MEDICAL PRODUCTS DIVISION TELEPHONE NUMBER: (914) 351-2131

December 15, 1983

Mr. A. T. Clark
 U. S. Nuclear Regulator Commission
 7915 Eastern Avenue
 Silver Spring, MD 20910

Subj: SNM-639

Dear Mr. Clark:

The subject license currently limits the time period in which we can store recovered irradiated target uranium in the Gamma Facility in anticipation of packaging and shipping to a uranium reprocessing facility. This limit is two weeks.

On January 3rd we started storing recovered uranium shipping containers in the gamma facility for a shipment that was scheduled for tomorrow, December 16th. A problem has arisen with the shipping cask which will cause a delay in this shipment. It is anticipated that necessary repair work on the cask will require us to store this material for at least another three weeks and perhaps longer. It is therefore requested that the time limit for storage in the gamma facility be extended on an emergency basis for two months to allow for this temporary cask unavailability.

Granting this extension will not result in a less safe condition. The corrosion rate of aluminum in deionized water is not a problem. Our experience with reactor fuel having .015" cladding (1100 & 6061 AL) does not leak while in service for periods up to two years. The wall thickness of the recovered uranium shipping containers is 0.250" (6061 AL). The reactor technical specification limiting conditions for operations include water quality limits of resistivity $\geq 200,000$ ohm-cm and $5 < \text{pH} < 7.5$.

The minimum radioactive inventory contained in any container is > 600 Curies of mixed fission products (113 days decayed.) Each of the containers in storage will be self-protected in that it will have a radiation dose level in excess of 100 rem per hour at 3 feet.

Your prompt approval of this emergency request will provide the required temporary relief without reducing safety margins.

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 C PDR

Very truly yours,

James J. McGovern
 James J. McGovern
 Business Manager
 Radiochemicals

Applicant
Check no.	29660
Amount/Fee Category	\$150
Type of Fee	adm.
Date Check Rec'd	2/1/84
Received By	<i>Allen</i>

23329

DOCKET NO. 70-687
CONTROL NO. 23329
DATE OF DOC. 01/26/84/12/15/83
DATE RCVD. 02/08/84
FCUF _____ PDR
FCAF LPDR _____
WM _____ I&E REF.
WMUR _____ SAFEGUARDS
FCTC _____ OTHER _____

DESCRIPTION:

Letter requesting
Amendment to their
license

02/22/84 INITIAL CC