



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
1600 EAST LAMAR BLVD
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4511

June 14, 2012

Mr. Richard B. Provencher,
Manager
Department of Energy
Idaho Operations Office
1955 Fremont Ave., MS 1203
Idaho Falls, ID 83415

SUBJECT: NRC PARTICIPATION IN THE 2012 EMERGENCY DRILL FOR THE FORT
SAINT VRAIN INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION

Dear Mr. Provencher:

On June 5, 2012, NRC Region IV participated in an emergency drill with the U.S. Department of Energy's Fort Saint Vrain Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation's (ISFSI) Emergency Response Organization. The scope of the drill included a simulated natural phenomenon (lightening strike) that caused damage to the facility and injury to a worker. The licensee followed their Fort St. Vrain Emergency Response Plan (PLN-143) to classify the simulated emergency, establish communications and complete required notifications, assemble the response organization, assess the damage, and initiate corrective actions. Region IV staffed the Region's Incident Response Center and participated in the drill from that location. Region IV noted that the licensee was able to establish timely communications with the NRC and provide information related to the incident. The licensee's responders provided timely and accurate responses to NRC's requests for information during the course of the drill, including extent of facility damage and possible impact on the spent fuel, radiological concerns, personnel safety, and public notifications.

Region IV appreciates the opportunity to participate with your organization in this emergency drill. Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact the undersigned at (817) 200-1191 or Mr. Lee Brookhart at (817) 200-1549.

Sincerely,

/RA/

D. Blair Spitzberg, Ph.D., Chief
Fuels Safety and Decommissioning Branch

Department of Energy
Idaho Operations Office

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Docket: 072-00009
License: SNM-2504

cc w/enclosure:

Barbara Beller
NRC Licensing Manager
U.S. Department of Energy,
Idaho Operations Office
1955 Fremont Ave., MS-5121
Idaho Falls, ID 83402

Anthony Marshbank
Licensed Facility Director
U.S. Department of Energy,
Idaho Operations Office
1955 Fremont Ave., MS-5121
Idaho Falls, ID 83402

Donald A. Armour
Quality Assurance Manager
U.S. Department of Energy,
Idaho Operations Office
1955 Fremont Ave., MS-5121
Idaho Falls, ID 83402

Mr. Charlie Bomberger
XCEL Energy
414 Nicollet Mall
RCQ 8
Minneapolis, MN 55401

Chairman
Board of County Commissioners
Of Weld County, Colorado
915 10th Street
Greely, CO 80631

Regional Representative
Radiations Programs
Environmental Protection Agency
1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, CO 80202-1129

Director
Laboratory & Radiation Services Division
Colorado Department of Public Health
and Environment
8100 Lowry Boulevard
Denver, CO 80230-6928

Electronic DISTRIBUTION:

Regional Administrator (Elmo.Collins@nrc.gov)
 Deputy Regional Administrator (Art.Howell@nrc.gov)
 Chief, Response Coordination Branch (Linda.Howell@nrc.gov)
 DNMS Director (Anton.Vegel@nrc.gov)
 DNMS Deputy Director (Vivian.Campbell@nrc.gov)
 Branch Chief (Blair.Spitzberg@nrc.gov)
 RSFS Inspector (Lee.Brookhart@nrc.gov)
 RSFS Inspector (Vincent.Everett@nrc.gov)
 SFST RIV Project Manager (William.Allen@nrc.gov)
 RSFS File

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JV Everett	LE Brookhart	DB Spitzberg			
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