



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

September 22, 1998

Mr. Robert Cook  
Duke Energy  
PO Box 1006  
Charlotte, NC 28201-1006

Dear Mr. Cook:

In response to your telephone call, Mr. Brian Horn of my staff has prepared the following reply concerning the restrictions on use of uranium resulting from the down blending of Russian high-enriched uranium into low-enriched uranium and designated for use as fuel in your company's nuclear power reactors.

Low-enriched uranium containing down blended Russian-origin high-enriched uranium is identified by the entry of "WR" in country control number fields 7 & 8 of a DOE/NRC Form-741. This "WR" designation places no restrictions on your company's use of this uranium as fuel for your commercial nuclear power reactors. Similarly, the "WR" designation places no restrictions to any subsequent movement of irradiated fuel that is discharged from your company's commercial nuclear power reactors. If your company purchases and receives "WR" designated uranium and then decides to sell/ship the "WR" designated material to another country, we recommend that you specify, on the NRC export application, that the uranium contains "WR" designated material.

This response was cleared with other appropriate U.S. Government representatives. If you need additional clarification, please contact Mr. Brian Horn at (301) 415-8128.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "B. W. Moran".

B. W. Moran, Acting Section Chief  
International Safeguards Section  
Regulatory and International Safeguards  
Branch, FCSS, NMSS

cc: Ed Mastal, DOE

9810050202 980929  
PDR ADDCK 05000269  
PDR

