



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

Rhode Island Atomic Energy Commission

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Telephone # 401-874-2600

March 10, 2017

Docket No. 50-193

License No. R-95

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Attn: Document Control Desk

Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Subject: Revised Response to Generic Letter 2016-01: Monitoring of Neutron-Absorbing Materials in Spent Fuel Pools

Ms. Sanders,

This letter is a revised response to the NRC's Generic Letter 2016-01 regarding the monitoring of neutron-absorbing materials in spent fuel pools. In our letter dated April 11, 2016, we indicated that our spent fuel racks did not have neutron absorbing material because the generic letter on this matter discussed boron based neutron absorbers at length, and our racks use cadmium. Our revised response to the questions for non-power reactors can be found below.

1. Are neutron-absorbing materials used in a reactor pool, fuel storage pool, or other wet locations designed for storage of reactor or spent fuel?

We have two types of fuel racks. The first type is a single row, nine element rack that mounts to the pool wall. Along the wall side of those racks, there is a cadmium sheet. The second type of rack that we have is a floor rack that is a double row, nine element per row rack that sits on the pool floor. Those racks have cadmium sheets along the outer lengthwise sides of the racks.

2. If neutron-absorbing materials are used, is their use credited in the licensing or design basis for the storage of reactor fuel or spent fuel in a reactor pool, fuel storage pool, or other wet locations, as applicable?

Both types of racks were designed and fabricated by General Electric at the time that they designed and built the reactor. There is no information about whether or not credit was taken for the cadmium side plates in the determination of Keff.

3. If neutron-absorbing materials are credited in the facility licensing or design basis for the storage of reactor fuel or spent fuel in a reactor pool, fuel storage pool, or other wet locations, as applicable, then provide a description of, and technical basis for, any surveillance or monitoring programs used to confirm continued acceptable performance of the neutron-absorbing materials over time.

There is no surveillance or monitoring program for these racks.

If there are any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me at (401) 874-2600.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Davis, Assistant Director
Rhode Island Nuclear Science Center

I certify under penalty of perjury that the representations made above are true and correct.

Executed on: 3/10/17

By: Michael J. Davis

cc: P Boyle
Region I

Mr. Craig Bassett
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