



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555  
August 20, 1979

Mr. F. E. Murphy  
806 - 5th Avenue, S.E.  
Jamestown, North Dakota

Dear Mr. Murphy:

This is in reply to your letter of July 30, 1979.

With regard to storage of spent fuel from nuclear power plants, storage pools have been provided at reactor sites. Modifications of these pools by redesigning fuel racks and making more efficient use of available pool floor space can increase spent fuel storage capacity, on the average, by a factor of 2.5. In time, independent spent fuel storage installations will be required, and these are under consideration by the Department of Energy.

As to high-water breeder reactors utilizing thorium and uranium-233, a core containing those materials was installed in the existing reactor vessel at the Shippingport Atomic Power Station at Shippingport, Pennsylvania. Full-power operation was achieved in 1977 and is to continue until 1981. The purpose is to obtain information on the characteristics and performance of the core. The question of whether a core of this kind can produce more fissionable material than it consumes should be answered when the contents of the spent core are analyzed in 1984.

In regard to storage of low-level radioactive wastes, there are facilities licensed by the NRC at Barnwell, South Carolina, at Hanford, Washington, and at Beatty, Nevada.

With respect to recycling spent fuels, the President announced in April 1977 an indefinite deferment of commercial reprocessing and recycling of the plutonium produced in the U. S. nuclear power programs.

Sincerely,

*Harold R. Denton*  
Harold R. Denton, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

7909190514 977 314

F. E. "BUD" MURPHY

(LTC. USAR Ret.)

806 - 5TH AVENUE, S. E.

JAMESTOWN, NORTH DAKOTA 58401

DIAL: 252-0148

R. Hansen

Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director NRC.,  
The Nuclear Regulatory Comm. Office,  
1717 - H Street, N.W.,  
Washington, D. C. 20555

July 30th 1979

Gentlemen: RE: Some Suggested Alternates.

Have been doing quite a bit of "RESEARCHING NUCLEAR ENERGY, so have some suggestions:

- (1) To make excellent use of The ABM - Missile Site Radar Structure, use it to store all of the presently existing "Spent Nuclear Power Plant Fuel Rods". These Spent Fuel Rods are accumulating fast and every "Operating Nuclear Fueled Power Plant" is having a Storage Problem?. The Spent Fuel Rods could be flown to Grand Forks AF Base in "Lead-lined Containers" in C-130's, then transported (the complete Containers) on Heavy-duty Tractor-Drawn Semi-trailers to the Nekoma, N. Dak. ABM-Site for Storage in Cooling Pools. Eventually, build A U.S. Gov't. Operated, Controlled, and with proper Security; A Spent Fuels Re-cycling & Enrichment Plant; for controlled distribution back to The Nuclear Fuel Rods Users! I'd suggest that The Recycling & Enrichment Plant be built within The ABM-Site Compound, which is already "Security Fenced", and Living Quarters are already built and would be available to The U.S. Gov't. Employees that would operate & Secure The Plant.
- (2) Start immediately to let "Public Utilities & Cooperatives" construct many "THORIUM SLOW LIGHT-WATER BREEDER REACTORS- it makes more fuel than it uses! This would help to conserve URANIUM SUPPLIES which are dwindling and becoming more-scarce?. We are wasting OUR TIME AND VERY PRECIOUS METALS & CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS, building any more COAL-BURNING ELECTRICAL GENERATING PLANTS - They are too dirty (polluting the air with Fly-ash, Carbon Dioxide & Monoxide Gases, plus, it's now nearly \$20.00-per ton delivered) and we're getting only about 37% efficiency in heat from the COAL (Lignite from N. Dakota and Montana's just a little bit better). Our Lignite Coals make EXCELLENT INGREDIENTS for COAL-Gasification. We NEED THE NATURAL GAS, THE ANHYDROUS AMMONIA (Fertilizers) AND OTHER BY-PRODUCTS NOW!
- (3) I would further suggest that ALL OTHER NUCLEAR SPENT FUELS (Nuclear Waste By-products) BOTH WET AND DRY-be stored in LARGE THICK 42-GALLON PYREX GLASS BOTTLES-and ship-by AIR - RAIL or TRUCKS to THE NEVADA ATOM-BOMB TESTING SITES, and store them in The Large Existing Under-ground Test Holes (access to these Large Glass-lined Storage Areas by Portable Electric-Powered Elevators) and build ANOTHER LARGE U.S. GOV'T. OPERATED, AND CONTROLLED SECURITY, SPENT NUCLEAR FUELS RE-CYCLING & ENRICHMENT PLANT within the over 1,300-square miles of already SECURED - HEAVY-DUTY CYCLONE FENCE AND TOPPED WITH BARB-WIRE, and Security-Guards!.

Respectfully submitted,  
F. E. "BUD" MURPHY, LTC. AUS-Retired

977 315  
7908060334  
P.S.- The Nuclear Wastes are piling up - Let's get moving on "NUCLEAR WASTES AND RE-USE!"

XEQ 1/0