



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

PDR

FCPF:RLS
70-371

APR 04 1979

United Nuclear Corporation
Naval Products Division
ATTN: Mr. William F. Kirk, Manager
Nuclear & Industrial Safety
67 Sandy Desert Road
Uncasville, Connecticut 06382

Gentlemen:

This letter is in response to your classified letter, reference NIS: 78-6-10, to Mr. L. C. Rouse, inquiring about a change in the specification for isotopes of uranium other than U-235 in the product from the diffusion plant and what type of environmental evaluation was made by the Department of Energy (DOE) for the effect of the change on users of the product. There has been no change in the specification for isotopes other than U-235 and thus no environmental evaluation by DOE of which we are aware. The absence of an explicit specification for the other uranium isotopes in the enriched UF₆ would, of course, permit DOE to make changes that could affect their concentrations in the product. It would be DOE's responsibility to determine whether such changes call for an environmental evaluation.

As noted in our telephone conversation with Mr. Kirk on March 13, 1979, we believe that your letter of inquiry was classified without a clear need. We rely on licensees conducting classified operations to communicate with us at the lowest practicable level of classification.

Sincerely,

W. T. Crow, Section Leader
Uranium Fuel Fabrication Section
Fuel Processing & Fabrication Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle and
Material Safety

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