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

JUL 2 1979

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

FROM: Norman Ketzlach
Uranium Fuel Fabrication Section
Fuel Processing & Fabrication Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle and
Material Safety

SUBJECT: TRIP REPORT

Purpose

Visit licensee's facilities and discuss the SNM-778 license renewal application of the Babcock and Wilcox Lynchburg Research Center (LRC).

Place and Date

Lynchburg Research Center, Lynchburg, Virginia, June 11-13, 1979.

Attendees

Lynchburg Research Center -
A. F. Olsen, License Administrator
F. M. Alcorn, Nuclear Safety Officer
J. W. Cure, Supervisor Health and Safety
J. P. Doran, Manager Accounting and Administrative Services

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission -
N. Ketzlach, NMSS
A. L. Soong, NMSS
J. B. Kahle, I&E Region II

Discussion

N. Ketzlach, A. L. Soong, and J. B. Kahle toured the facilities of the Lynchburg Research Center with A. F. Olsen. During the tour a building housing SNM wastes (Building J) was seen that was not discussed in the renewal application. J. B. Kahle identified several items that should be incorporated in the license to clarify its application. These items will be incorporated in the formal comments to be submitted to the LRC on their renewal application.

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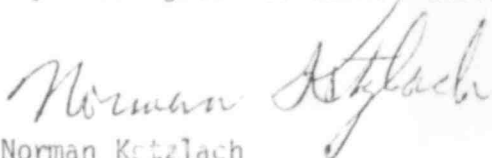
Discussions were held on the NRC preliminary comments associated with radiation safety, nuclear criticality safety, process safety, fire protection and the emergency plans. All attendees, excluding Mr. Doran, participated in all the discussions. The latter participated only in the discussion of the emergency plan.


The LRC personnel have an understanding how they will develop the response to the NRC comments associated with nuclear criticality and process safety and the emergency plan. However, they feel additional time will be required for them to determine their response to some of the comments associated with radiation safety and fire protection. In order to meet the radiation safety requirements for the facility air monitoring program and respond to the NRC comments associated with the bioassay program and with ALARA, they feel further evaluation of their methods for radiation protection is necessary. Therefore, the LRC stated they could not meet the NRC "Gold Book" schedule of August 3, 1979, for response to our comments. However, they agreed to submit their response by September 10, 1979. The biggest problem in the fire protection area is the use of polyethylene pipe in the ductwork associated with the BOG (box off gas system for the glove boxes) in Building C. D. Notley (Engineering Methodology Standards Branch) who is performing the fire safety review of the renewal application, will evaluate the use of the polyethylene piping during his site visit to be made in the near future.

Prior to departure, N. Ketzlach, A. L. Soong and J. B. Kahle met with A. F. Olsen and Dr. E. D. Lynch, Manager Materials and Chemical Technology Laboratory, (acting for the Director of the Lynchburg Research Center) to discuss the meeting summary.

Conclusions

The site visit and discussion of the NRC preliminary comments should expedite the review of the LRC renewal application. The LRC has determined that they must make an additional study of its operations before they can respond to the NRC comments. They have agreed to submit their response by September 10, 1979.


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Approved by: 
W. T. Crow, Section Leader

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