



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

DELATED CORRESPONDENCE

January 8, 1979

NRC PUBLIC DOCUMENT ROOM

Marshall E. Miller, Esq., Chairman
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Mr. Lester Kornblith, Jr.
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

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In the Matter of
Gulf States Utilities Company
(Blue Hills Station, Units 1 and 2)
Docket Nos. STN 50-510 and STN 50-511

Dear Members of the Board:

Enclosed for the information of the parties is a copy of SAND77-1927 entitled, "Transport of Radionuclides in Urban Environs: Working Draft Assessment" (WDA). This is a preliminary report in the development by the NRC of a Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) on transportation of radionuclides in urban environs. The general objectives of the GEIS are (1) to identify any unacceptable risk or hazard to public health and safety and (2) to identify promising alternatives whereby current levels of safety may be improved further. The study is not intended, by itself, to support any specific rulemaking action or other regulatory activity.

Among the topics discussed in the WDA are: (1) sabotage of spent fuel casks, discussed in Chapter 6, resulting in severe consequences (thousands of deaths, billions of dollars in damages) and (2) consequences of severe accidents in urban areas resulting in costs exceeding \$560 million.

Also enclosed for the information of the parties are copies of Commission Information Reports, SECY-78-311, dated June 14, 1978 and SECY-78-311A */ dated November 9, 1978. These Information Reports indicate to the

*/ Only the unclassified portions of SECY-78-311A have been forwarded. In addition, SECY-78-311A has been supplemented by a "Correction Notice" of November 27, 1978. A copy of this notice is also enclosed.

Commission the Staff's view of the impact of the WDA on current regulatory policy. As can be seen from these Commission papers, the NRC Staff has recommended that no immediate regulatory action is necessary to protect spent fuel shipment at this time.

Copies of the enclosed documents have been furnished separately to all Licensing and Appeal Board Panel Members for their use.

Sincerely,



Colleen P. Woodhead
Counsel for NRC Staff

Enclosures: As Stated

cc: (w/enclosures)
John L. Hill, Esq.
Stanley Plettman, Esq.
Troy B. Conner, Jr., Esq.
Mark J. Wetterhahn, Esq.

cc: (w/o enclosures)
Atomic Safety and Licensing
Board Panel
Atomic Safety and Licensing
Appeal Panel
Docketing and Service Section