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# GENERAL ELECTRIC

GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY, 175 CURTNER AVE., SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA 95125

NUCLEAR FUEL  
AND SERVICES

DIVISION  
SPENT FUEL SERVICES OPERATION



DMD-369  
SNM-1270  
Docket No. 70-1220

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November 7, 1979

Office of Nuclear Material Safety & Safeguards  
Attn: R.E. Cunningham, Director  
Division of Fuel Cycle & Material Safety  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

SUBJECT: APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT OF MATERIALS LICENSE SNM-1270

Gentlemen:

Recent changes in 10CFR73 regarding the shipment of irradiated nuclear fuel have nullified the authorization for possession of such material under the conditions of License No. SNM-1270. This situation will seriously impede many research and development projects being conducted by General Electric. These include projects involving improvements in the safety of reactor operation that require and depend upon timely shipments of irradiated nuclear fuel between commercial nuclear power plants and laboratories.

For example, shipments of segmented rods between Monticello, Minnesota and the GE Vallecitos Nuclear Center are required in the continuing pellet-clad interaction remedy program sponsored by DOE and Commonwealth Research Corporation. Likewise, under an EPRI program, production fuel rods are shipped between Brunswick Nuclear Power Station (CP&L) and Battelle Memorial Institute Laboratories. Some projects also involve non-fuel components, such as activated materials and chemistry samples not subject to 10CFR73.

General Electric believes that these and similar projects contribute significantly to the safe and economical operation of nuclear power plants and should continue. In order to continue these projects and to carry out contractual commitments, General Electric Company must be capable of assuming complete responsibility for these shipments as shipper

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of the radioactive material from NRC licensed facilities. Therefore, an amendment of Materials License No. SNM-1270 is requested in accordance with the following paragraphs:

o Revise License item 6 as follows:

"6. Byproduct, source and/or special nuclear material. Special nuclear material, which may be irradiated, shall be contained in fuel pellets, rods and rod segments, or fuel bundles used in research and development activities (as defined in 10CFR70.4). All other materials subject to requirements of 10CFR73 are excluded."

o Revise License item 9 as follows:

"9. Authorized Use: Receipt and possession of materials specified in items 6. through 8., above, in packages approved pursuant to 10CFR71 or fabricated in accordance with applicable DOT specifications, for the purpose of delivery to a carrier for transport and private carriage in accordance with other conditions of this license."

o Add the following conditions:

"11. The licensee shall utilize its personnel, who shall have been trained in the practices and procedures appropriate to the nuclear materials and shipping package involved in each instance, to inspect and monitor the loading of each package to verify:

- a. that nuclear material to be shipped is in accordance with conditions of this license and in compliance with requirements of the license, Certificate of Compliance, or DOT specification for the package to be employed;
- b. that the package is loaded, sealed, tested, and/or otherwise prepared for shipment in accordance with requirements of the license, Certificate of Compliance, or DOT specification for the package to be employed."

"12. The licensee shall receive the loaded shipping package at the loading dock, or equivalent location, at the NRC licensed facility from which the shipment will originate. The licensee shall then deliver the loaded package to the carrier for transport which shall be subject to applicable regulations."

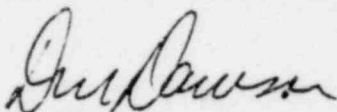
These license modifications will permit continuation of projects important to the continued safe operation of nuclear plants while incorporating

measures to verify that the material and packaging involved in each shipment meet applicable standards and regulations. General Electric will assume responsibility for the package and its contents at a location clear of all plant safety systems and related devices, prior to release of the package to the carrier.

General Electric believes that these modifications of License No. SNM-1270 satisfy the concerns of the Commission, as presently understood. Please consider this amendment of License No. SNM-1270 as soon as possible to prevent untoward delays in reactor safety programs and other projects. Messrs. C.C. Herrington or H.A. Rogers of this office may be contacted if there are questions regarding this application. A check in the amount of \$150.00 is enclosed as fee for this licensing action.

Respectfully submitted,

GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY



D.M. Dawson, Manager  
Licensing & Transportation  
408\*925-6330 MC 861

DMD:HAR:ln

Enclosure - \$150.00 check

cc: C.E. MacDonald, Chief  
Transportation Branch  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555