



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

FEB 12 1980

DOCKET NO.: 70-820

APPLICANT: United Nuclear Corporation (UNC)
(UNC Recovery Systems Division)

FACILITY: Fuel Recovery Operation
Wood River Junction, Rhode Island

SUBJECT: JANUARY 29, 1980 MEETING WITH UNC REPRESENTATIVES

Purpose

To discuss a proposed amendment to UNC's license (SNM-777) to authorize modifications in UNC's procedures for processing of process wastes including wastes now stored in lagoons at the site.

Place and Date

NRC office in Silver Spring, Maryland, January 29, 1980.

Attendees

NRC - W. T. Crow, E. Y. Shum, R. L. Stevenson
UNC - J. Dunning, R. Gregg, C. Helgeson

Discussion

The currently authorized procedures for treatment of process wastes include evaporation of liquids and drying of solids. The UNC representatives showed a proposed administrative amendment to authorize on-site storage of dried solids in drums awaiting shipment for burial at an authorized licensed burial site. The accumulated inventory of U-235 in the drums would exceed the amount authorized in the waste treatment area under Amendment No. 4. However, since the criticality safety basis (limited surface density) to be used would be the same as now authorized under the license, UNC expected the amendment to be administrative. Mr. Crow explained that an administrative amendment cannot cover significant safety questions and hence UNC will have to submit the application as a minor safety amendment with a check for \$1,400.

Calculations and measurements to be included in the application indicate that the waste treatment process will have only a minor environmental impact so that UNC will continue to meet the current total release limit for airborne radioactivity (25 μ Ci/wk) with an adequate margin.

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It was suggested to the UNC representatives that the application include information supporting their conclusions on the maximum U-235 content and distribution in the solidified waste.

Robert L. Stevenson

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