

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

RM-50-5

May 2, 1980



Mr. Stuart Eizenstat Assistant to the President for Domestic Affairs and Policy The White House Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. Eizenstat:

On May 5, 1977, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission wrote to President Carter requesting views on the relationship between the Administration's nuclear nonproliferation policie: and ongoing Commission proceedings relating to the Generic Environmental Statement on Mixed Oxide Fuel (GESMO) and the review of plutonium recycle related license applications. On October 4, 1977, you replied on behalf of the President recommending that the Commission terminate staff reviews and hearings relating to recycle activities, deny interim licensing of fuel cycle facilities, and deny interim licensing of the use of mixed oxide fuel in reactors, except in small quantities for experimental purposes.

On December 23, 1977, the Commission issued an opinion terminating GESMO and recycle related licensing proceedings. The Commission committed itself to the reexamination of this issue after the completion of the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation (INFCE) and any revisions of the Administration's policies. INFCE has now been completed. The Administration's views will be an important element in the Commission's decision whether to reopen these proceedings. Therefore, we request that the Administration provide us its views on:

- -- whether the results of INFCE or events since October 1977 have led to a change in Administration nonproliferation policies; and
- -- whether the positions expressed in the October 1977 letter continue to be those of the Administration.

We would also request any comments or recommendations the Administration may have regarding reopening the GESMO proceedings.

We appreciate your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Chedne

John F. Ahearne

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