



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

ACR55m-0184
PDR 5/22/80

July 27, 1979

R. Tedesco, Assistant Director
for Reactor Safety - DSS

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON PELLET-CLAD INTERACTION

During the Reactor Fuel Subcommittee Meeting of May 8, 1979, there was discussion of the increasing emphasis on extending fuel burnup beyond the current "limit" of 30,000 MWD/MTU and its effect on fuel damage criteria. While there was extensive discussion on the role of fission gas release from the fuel and its impact on internal rod pressure given extended fuel burnup, little was said concerning such PCI-related problems as the role of fission gas-induced swelling on fuel life limitation. The Committee would appreciate a brief written status report on the overall NRR effort in the area of pellet-clad interaction (PCI). The report should include discussion of whether or not NRR believes PCI-caused fuel failures may be exacerbated if fuel burnups are extended beyond the current discharge values.

If you require additional information please call Paul Boehmert at 4-3267.

MWL

M. W. Libarkin
Assistant Executive Director
for Project Review

Attachment: as stated

cc: K. Daniel, CPB-DSS
R. Meyer, CPB-DSS

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