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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

JUN 2 7 1980

Mr. J. A. Perry, Manager Quality Assurance Exxon Nuclear Company P.O. Box 130 Richland, WA 99352

Dear Mr. Perry:

SUBJECT: NRC ACCEPTANCE OF REVISED EXXON NUCLEAR QUALITY ASSURANCE TOPICAL REPORT

The Perry/Haass letters of August 14, 1979 and January 25, 1980 submitted Revision 3 to Exxon Nuclear's topical report, XN-NF-1A, "Quality Assurance Program Topical Report for Nuclear Fuel Design and Fabrication," for staff review and approval. Revision 3 revises the topical report to reflect organizational changes, current design control and corrective action practices, and editorial changes.

Based on our review and evaluation of Revision 3, we find that all applicable requirements of Appendix B to 10 CFR Part 50 are included in the QA program requirements. Therefore, your revised topical report is acceptable, and you may implement it upon issuance of the revision. We do not intend to repeat our review of this topical report when it is referenced in an application.

To use the Exxon Nuclear topical report in future license applications, applicants need only reference this topical report in Chapter 17 of the Safety Analysis Report. In addition, this QA program may be implemented immediately on all ongoing activities. In this regard, identify in your transmittal letter those existing contracts that will be covered by Revision 3 to XN-NF-1A.

Should regulatory criteria or regulations change such that our conclusions about this topical report are invalidated, we will notify you. You will be given the opportunity to revise and resubmit it should you so desire. Programmatic changes by Exxon Nuclear to this topical report are to be submitted to NRC for review prior to implementation. Organizational changes are to be submitted no later than 30 days after announcement.

Please replace our letter of March 21, 1979 with a copy of this letter, renumber the report XN-NF-1A, Revision 3, and resubmit 35 copies of the revision to the NRC.

Should you have any questions regarding our review or if we can provide assistance, please feel free to contact Mr. James Conway on (301) 492-7741.

Sincerely,

Walter A

Walter P. Haass, Chief Quality Assurance Branch Division of Engineering

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