PDR 70-2885

July 11, 1980-

Mr. R. G. Page, Chief Uranium Fuel Licensing Branch Division of Fuel Cycle and Material Safety U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555 RECEIVED

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Subject: Request for Amendment of NRC

Materials Licenses SNM-1802 and SNM-1833

LaSalle County Station Units 1 and 2 NRC Docket Nos. 70-2609 and 70-2885

References: (a): L. C. Rouse letter to M. S. Turbak dated September 25, 1978.

(b): W. T. Crow letter to L. O. DelGeorge dated January 22, 1979.

(c): R. G. Page letter to D. L. Peoples dated June 13, 1980.

(d): M. S. Turbak letter to L. C. Rouse dated July 34, 1978.

Dear Mr. Page:

The purpose of this submittal is to request the amendment of the Special Nuclear Material Licenses SNM-1802 and SNM-1833 for LaSalle County Station Units 1 and 2, respectively. Each of those licenses presently has a weight limitation of 3000 kilograms of U-235 at a maximum enrichment of 3.1 percent.

As a result of a modifiction to the fuel assemblies to address a potential fretting concern on the water-rods in the assemblies numerous transfers of fuel between the Unit 1 and Unit 2 spent fuel storage pools have been required. Because of these transfers, an excessive number of license transfers under 10 CFR 70.54 have been required to maintain the U-235 weight for each license under 3000 kilograms.

In order to reduce the number of license transfers, we request that the subject licenses each be amended to raise the U-235 weight limitation from 3000 to 6000 kilograms. No physical change has been made to the arrangement of the fuel storage area and fuel storage vault described in the original license application (Reference (a)) or the amendments to the licenses (References (b) and (c)). As was indicated in response to an NRC question (see Question 1, Reference (d)), sufficient capacity exists in the New Fuel Vault and Unit 1 Spent Fuel Pool to store the fuel assemblies

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from both units. The rack designs, as currently documented, provide the necessary separation to accommodate this quantity of fuel. Therefore, no new unreviewed safety question is presented.

This question was reviewed informally with Mr. J. Delaney of your staff on July 10, 1980. As was indicated to Mr. Delaney, the continuing assembly modification work with attendant need for license transfers leads us to request that this amendment be reviewed expeditiously. We would appreciate receiving your reply by July 21, 1980.

If there are any questions in this regard, please direct them to this office.

Very truly yours,

P D. L. Peoples

Director of Nuclear

Licensing

cc: Mr. J. Delaney

Uranium Fuel Licensing Branch

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission