

*Designated  
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23 APR 1981

Docket No. 99900081/81-01

Exxon Nuclear Company, Inc.  
Nuclear Fuels Department  
ATTN: Mr. C. J. Volmer  
Quality Assurance Manager  
2955 George Washington Way  
Richland, Washington 99352



Gentlemen:

This refers to the QA program conducted by Mr. W. M. McNeill of this office on March 16-19, 1981, of your facility at Richland, Washington, associated with the manufacture and fabrication of nuclear fuel assemblies and to the discussions of our findings with you and members of your staff at the conclusion of the inspection.

This inspection was made to confirm that, in the areas inspected, your QA program is being effectively implemented. The inspection effort is not designed to assure that unique quality requirements imposed by a customer are being achieved; nor to assure that a specific product, component, or service provided by you to your customers is of acceptable quality. As you know, the NRC requires each of its licensees to assume full responsibility for the quality of specific products, components, or services procured from others. You should, therefore, not conclude that the NRC's inspection exempts you from inspections by an NRC licensee or his agents, nor from taking effective corrective action in response to their findings.

Areas examined and our findings are discussed in the enclosed report. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of an examination of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observations by the inspector.

During the inspection it was found that the implementation of your QA program failed to meet certain NRC requirements. The specific findings and references to the pertinent requirements are identified in the enclosures to this letter. Since corrective and preventive actions were taken and verified before the conclusion of this inspection, no further written response is necessary.

In accordance with Section 2.790 of the Commission's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, a copy of this letter with enclosure and your reply, together with the enclosed inspection report will be placed in the Commission's Public Document Room. If this report contains any information that you believe to be proprietary, it is necessary that you

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SURNAME	CI:CS	DEWhitesell	UPotapovs	DEGagliardo	JTCottins
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Exxon Nuclear Company, Inc.  
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make a written application within 25 days to this office to withhold such information from public disclosure. The application must include a full statement of the reasons why it is claimed that the information is proprietary. The application should be prepared so that any proprietary information identified is contained in an enclosure to the application, since the application without the enclosure will also be placed in the Public Document Room. If we do not hear from you in this regard within the specified period, the report will be placed in the Public Document Room.

Should you have any questions concerning this inspection, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,

Uldis Potapovs, Chief  
Vendor Inspection Branch

**Enclosures:**

1. Notice of Nonconformance
2. Inspection Report No. 99900081/81-01

bcc:

Chief, V&SPB, DR&RRI, HQS (Reinmuth)

IE Files

NRR:DPM:CAB

REG. Directors, I, II, III, V

PDR HQS

Central Files

JEGagliardo, RIV

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