



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

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APR 2 1982



James R. Miller, Chief
Standardization and Special
Projects Branch
Division of Licensing
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Miller:

Thank you for your letter of February 18, 1982, which transmitted copies of the draft environmental impact statement related to the License Renewal and Power Increase for the National Bureau of Standards Reactor, Montgomery County, Maryland. We have reviewed the draft statement and have the following comments.

Water Sampling

The streams sampled in the environmental monitoring program should be named and shown on figure 4.2. Consideration should be given to including Lake Elysium, downstream from the reactor on the Muddy Branch tributary that drains the reactor site, in the sampling program.

Seismicity

While the discussion of the seismicity of the area around this site is reasonable, there is no indication as to the manner in which this information was used to influence the design of either the reactor building or the equipment within that building. The final statement should indicate how this data was used in the design of the facilities.

We hope these comments will be helpful to you in the preparation of a final statement.

Sincerely,


Bruce Blanchard, Director
Environmental Project Review

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