



December 30, 1980

SECY-80-539A

POLICY ISSUE
(Notation Vote)

For: The Commissioners

From: William J. Dircks
Executive Director for Operations

Subject: TRANSFER OF COMPUTERIZED EQUIPMENT RELATED TO REPROCESSING TO FRANCE PURSUANT TO 10 CFR PART 810 (SECY-80-539)

Review Date: The NRC consultation period expires January 12, 1981.

Purpose: To obtain the Commission's concurrence in the attached response to DOE.

Discussion: The Foxboro Company has submitted a request to DOE for authorization to provide computerized equipment to France for use in the nuclear waste treatment facility at the UP-2 reprocessing plant at La Hague. This equipment, valued at \$10,000,000, would include three FOX 1/A process control computers and other support equipment to be used in controlling and monitoring ten process lines based on a modified "Purex" process for reprocessing and waste treatment.

DOE has concluded that:

1. This equipment is standard off-the-shelf instrumentation which is commonly used for monitoring and controlling the flow, pressure, and temperature of liquids and gases in industrial processes.
2. Similar equipment is available from non-U.S. sources such as France, West Germany, and the U.K. (DOE has advised us orally that the U.S. equipment is cheaper than that obtainable from the other sources.)
3. The supply of this equipment would not increase France's knowledge of reprocessing since it would be used only in standard process operations.
4. Approval would be consistent with current U.S. policy since the UP-2 facility has been in operation for a number of years and has been authorized previously to receive process control equipment from the U.S. (1975 and 1977).

Information in this record was deleted
 in accordance with the Freedom of Information
 Act, exemptions 5
 FOIA 92-436

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The Commissioners

Discussion: (Continued)

The staff agrees with DOE's conclusions and notes that this request would meet the criteria of "incidental assistance" under interagency guidelines except that it exceeds the monetary limit of \$100,000.

Conclusion:

Based on the foregoing, the staff concludes that approval of the transfer of this equipment to France is reasonable.

Recommendation:

That the Commission approve the dispatch of the attached letter to DOE, noting its plans to recommend approval of this request.



William J. Dircks
Executive Director for Operations

Enclosure:
Draft Letter to DOE

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Commissioners' comments should be provided directly to the Office of the Secretary by c.o.b. Friday, January 9, 1981.

Commission Staff Office comments, if any, should be submitted to the Commissioners NLT January 7, 1981, with an information copy to the Office of the Secretary. If the paper is of such a nature that it requires additional time for analytical review and comment, the Commissioners and the Secretariat should be apprised of when comments may be expected.