



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555-0001

JAN 25 1994

DOCKET: 70-1201

LICENSEE: B&W Fuel Company (BWFC)
Commercial Nuclear Fuel Plant
Lynchburg, Virginia

SUBJECT: SAFETY EVALUATION REPORT: APPLICATION DATED NOVEMBER 1, 1993,
POSSESSION CHANGE

Background

On November 1, 1993, B&W Fuel Company (BWFC) submitted an amendment application requesting an exemption from its moderation controls and authorization to receive quality control samples containing licensed material. During a telephone inquiry on December 1, 1993, the staff requested additional information. By letter dated December 1, 1993, BWFC provided the additional information.

Discussion

In order to prevent an inadvertent criticality BWFC currently utilizes both geometric and moderation control. BWFC current moderation controls limit the amount of liquids and hydrogenous material to no more than 1 gallon per container and 20 gallons total. This restriction applies even if special nuclear material (SNM) is absent. The licensee has requested that this restriction be removed when SNM is absent. Although the requested change introduces a duality of controls, namely in some instances mass control and in others moderation, the presence of geometric controls ensures that in either case the double contingency principle is fulfilled. Therefore, the staff concludes that the requested change will not diminish the margin of safety and accordingly finds the licensee's request acceptable.

BWFC has also requested authorization to receive quality control samples containing small quantities of radioactive isotopes from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) "cross check" program. These samples contain less than 1 microcurie of radioactive material. The receipt and use of these control samples will have no effect on BWFC's radiation safety program and pose no external or internal radiation safety problems. BWFC's current radiation safety program is sufficient to allow the use of quality control samples safely and in accordance with NRC regulations. Accordingly, the staff finds the request acceptable and has added Conditions 6.J, 7.J, and 8.J to authorize the possession of quality control samples.

Categorical Exclusion

The staff has reviewed the licensee's amendment request and determined:

1. There is no significant change in the types or significant increase in the amounts of any effluents that may be released offsite.

9402040201 940125
PDR ADOCK 07001201
C PDR

JAN 25 1994

2

2. There is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure,
3. There is no significant construction impact, and
4. There is no significant increase in the potential for or consequences from radiological accidents.

Therefore, in accordance with 10 CFR 51.22(c)(11), neither an environmental assessment nor an environmental impact statement is warranted for the proposed action.

Conclusion/Recommendation

The staff concludes the amendment can be issued without undue risk to the workers, public, or environment. Therefore, approval of the application is recommended.

The Region III Office has no objection to this licensing action.

Principal Contributors

Michael A. Lamastra
Mary Adams
Marc Klasky