



NUCLEAR METALS INC.

July 29, 1982

Mr. Thomas T. Martin, Director
Division of Engineering & Technical Programs
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region 1
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Re: Docket No. 40-672
License No. SMB-179

Dear Mr. Martin:

Thank you for your recent correspondence dated July 21, 1982 and acknowledgement of your receipt of our letter dated March 1, 1982.

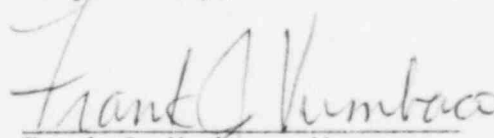
The purpose of this letter is to request an extension of thirty (30) days to reply to your five (5) questions regarding the report on the 1981 last quarter skin dose to an NMI employee.

We find the additional time necessary to make our reply substantive and accurate for we view the questions you raise as highly technical in nature. We are in the process of hiring a third professional Health Physicist and expect this person to be on board in early September. What was custom in the past here at NMI is to hire consultants to answer questions of the type you have raised. However, we feel that we have the expertise in-house currently and the difficulty arises as a logistics problem with assigning too many highly technical tasks to too few professionals.

In closing, we feel our request for additional time is justified based upon the above stated premises. We are puzzled, however, at the delay in your response to our letter report, which took approximately five (5) months. We would sincerely like to request in the future that telephone correspondence between your office and mine be used if a situation like this again presents itself.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and cooperation.

Respectfully,


Frank J. Vumbaco, Manager
Health and Radiation Safety

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CC: Mr. John Kinneman, Chief
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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