

The Honorable Tim Hutchinson
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

February 18, 1994

Dear Congressman Hutchinson:

This letter is in response to a recent inquiry from your staff on the Southwest Experimental Fast Oxide Reactor (SEFOR). SEFOR was an experimental breeder reactor near Strickler, Arkansas, that was authorized to operate at power levels up to 20 megawatts thermal and went on-line in December 1969. In January 1972, the General Electric Company and a consortium of utility companies (the owners and licensees of SEFOR) shut down operations at the facility. To deal with the residual byproduct material from the facility, the State of Arkansas issued a license for possession of the byproduct material at the SEFOR facility on August 29, 1972. On November 1, 1973, the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission (the predecessor to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission) authorized the licensees to decommission SEFOR. This decommissioning involved removal of special nuclear material and other highly radioactive material to the point that only residual byproduct material would remain. After the licensees completed the decommissioning activity, the NRC license was terminated by letter of May 14, 1974, and responsibility for the regulation of the facility and the residual byproduct material was then solely that of the State of Arkansas. This responsibility is still in effect and the contact for the State of Arkansas is:

Ms. Greta J. Dicus, Director
Division of Radiation Control and Emergency Management
Department of Health
4815 West Markham Street, Slot 30
Little Rock, AR 72205-3867
Telephone No.: (501) 661-2301

Questions on the current status and condition of the facility may be directed to Ms. Dicus.

I trust this information is responsive to your request.

Sincerely,

Original signed by
James M. Taylor

James M. Taylor
Executive Director
for Operations

9403020066 940218
PDR ADDCK 05000231
P PDR

cc: Ms. Greta J. Dicus

DISTRIBUTION:

Docket File 50-231 TMurley/FMiraglia
PDRs SVarga
EDO #009737 WRussell
EDO r/f DCrutchfield
SECY-94-0075 FGillespie
JTaylor ONDD r/f
JMilhoan BGrimes
HThompson SWeiss
JBlaha MMendonca (w/incoming)

OGC
OPA
OCA
NRR Mail Rm: (GT9737 w/incoming)
JLindsay (GT9737 w/incoming)
NOlson (GT9737 w/incoming)
EHylton
JCallan, RIV

NRC FILE CENTER COPY

*See previous concurrence

ONDD:VA ONDD:PM TECH ED.*
EHylton MMendonca:d mj RSanders
2/15/94 2/15/94 2/15/94

ONDD:D* DORS:DD*
SWeiss BGrimes
2/4/94 2/5/94

(A)ADP*
SVarga
2/8/94
DO
TMurley
2/15/94

DEDR
JMilhoan
2/ /94
OSP
RBangart
2/15/94

EDO
JTaylor
2/15/94

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

DOCUMENT NAME: A:GT9737.MM (ACTION ITEMS DISK)

Handwritten notes: D903, ECA, XP, 2/18/94

ACTION

EDO Principal Correspondence Control

FROM: DUE: 02/11/94
Rep. Tom Hutchinson *per Congressional Affairs*

EDO CONTROL: 0009737
DOC DT: 01/12/94
FINAL REPLY:

TO:
OCA

FOR SIGNATURE OF : ** GRN ** CRC NO: 94-0075
Executive Director

DESC: ROUTING:
ENCLOSURES MEMO FROM JOHN CLARK RE SEA FORTH NUCLEAR REACTOR A BREEDER REACTOR OWNED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS
Taylor
Milhoan
Thompson
Blaha
Callan, RIV

DATE: 02/01/94

ASSIGNED TO: CONTACT:
NRR Murley

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

*Take action -
see if we can change this
to see signature
Make this a one paragraph
reply if possible
ask Laura to see if she
needs to send a copy of
the reply to the Congressional
office if the EDO
has to sign this
BJ
2/2/94*

NRR RECEIVED: FEBRUARY 1, 1994
NRR ACTION: DORS:GRIMES
NRR ROUTING: TEM/FJM
JR
WR
DC
FG
NRR MAIL ROOM

ACTION
DUE TO NRR DIRECTOR'S OFFICE
BY Feb. 8, '94

TIM HUTCHINSON
3d DISTRICT, ARKANSAS

COMMITTEES:

PUBLIC WORKS AND
TRANSPORTATION

SUBCOMMITTEES:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION
WATER RESOURCES AND
ENVIRONMENT

VETERANS' AFFAIRS

SUBCOMMITTEES:

EDUCATION, TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT
SARVING WOUNDS
COMPENSATION, PENSION, AND
INSURANCE
HOSPITALS AND HEALTH CARE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0403

WASHINGTON OFFICE
1341 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4301

DISTRICT OFFICES
UNITED STATES FEDERAL BUILDING
38 EAST MOUNTAIN
FAYETTEVILLE, AR 72701
(501) 643-6266

UNITED STATES FEDERAL BUILDING
8TH AND ROGERS STREETS
POST OFFICE BOX 1024
FORT SMITH, AR 72803
(501) 782-7767

UNITED STATES FEDERAL BUILDING
POST OFFICE BOX 678
HARRISON, AR 72801
(501) 741-6900

FAX TRANSMITTAL SHEET

202-225-4301

Date: _____ Time: _____

TO: Laura

FROM: Gregg
202-225-4301

NUMBER OF PAGES TRANSMITTED (INCLUDING TRANSMITTAL): _____

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: As per our telephone
conversation:
301-504-1672

thanks!!

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: _____

Rep. Tom Hutchinson EC/CNU

116369
P71548

TO: Randi
DATE: January 12, 1994
PLACE: Fayetteville--phone call
NAME: John Clark
Route 1, Box 143BB
West Fork, Arkansas 72774
PHN 761-3301

SUBJECT: Sea Forth Nuclear Reactor NRC

301
504
1672

Mr. Clark lives near the Sea Forth Nuclear Reactor in southern Washington County. Sea Forth is a breeder reactor owned by the University of Arkansas. The original project was funded by private corporations and was in operation from 1969 until 1972.

Mr. Clark has two concerns:

1. He is concerned about possible problems and would like to have any information we can get concerning Sea Forth.

He has received some informatin from the Washington County Environmental Planning Commision. His contact is Bill at 444-1724.

FZMA

2. He is also the chief of the Strickler Volunteer Fire Department and would like to know if any federal grants are available to purchase equipment for his fire department in case of an emergency.