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SANTA BARBARA · SANTA CRUZ



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COMMUNITY SAFETY DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF RESEARCH & OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90024

Mr. Hal Bernard, Acting Branch Chief  
Standardization and Special Projects Branch  
Division of Licensing  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

May 14 1998



Docket 50-142, License R-77

SUBJ: Shipping of Unirradiated Fuel from UCLA

Dear Mr. Bernard:

We wish to advise the Commission of our desire to transfer fifteen (15) unirradiated MTR type fuel elements (as plates) from our facility. The plates of five (5) fuel elements are to be shipped to the University of Florida for use in their reactor and the plates of ten (10) fuel elements are to be transferred to a Department of Energy prime contractor, such as ORNL, Livermore, ... . The distribution of the fifteen (15) elements between the two destinations is somewhat conditioned by the choice of shipping containers. The 5:10 distribution represents current intent but is not yet firmly fixed.

The fuel to be transferred consists of unirradiated aluminum clad standard MTR-type 93% enriched fuel plates. The fuel, currently the property of DOE, was provided to UCLA by the DOE for future loading of the UCLA Argonaut Research Reactor. This unirradiated standard fuel has been stored in a special vault since its arrival in 1971. Based upon projections for fuel utilization, it is unlikely we will require these fuel elements in the foreseeable future. We therefore request its removal by DOE from the UCLA licensed facility.

UCLA will be responsible for supplying those various services and safeguards that are required for transferring the fuel plates to the DOE-provided shipping containers in accordance with the requirements of the UCLA Technical Specifications. DOE will have the responsibility for all other aspects of removal of the fuel from the UCLA building and its transportation to the receiver of the fuel including provision of the shipping containers. Management and coordination of the fuel transfer from UCLA is being handled by Mr. Neill Ostrander (213/825-2825). The individual within the San Francisco Operations office of the DOE who has been informed of the fuel transfer is Mr. David McIntosh (FTS 536-4152).

We hope the preceding description of our projected fuel shipment will provide a timely and satisfactory level of information regarding an event we are most anxious to complete within the shortest time possible

We appreciate your review and consideration of the project and will look forward to a timely transfer of the fuel plates to their respective locations. Please let me know if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

*Walt F. Wegst*

W.F. Wegst, Director  
Research & Occupational Safety  
UCLA  
213/206-6413

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cc: D.G. McIntosh, DOE, San Francisco  
L. Norderhaugh, USNRC, Region V  
W. Vernetson, University of California

~~Signature - Title Office Data~~

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