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Docket No. 70-1113
License No. SNM-1097
EA 90-139

General Electric Company
ATTN: Mr. Wayne P. Lewis, General Manager
Nuclear Fuel and Component
Manufacturing Department
P. O. Box 780
Wilmington, NC 28402

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF VIOLATION
(NRC SUPPLEMENTAL INSPECTION REPORT NO. 70-1113/90-07)

This refers to the inspection conducted by G. B. Kuzo of this office on June 18-22 and August 1-3, 1990. The inspection included a review of activities authorized for your General Electric facility. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with Messrs. W. McMahon and B. Bentley, Acting Manager, Nuclear Fuel and Component Manufacturing. A copy of the initial inspection results were dispatched to you on August 20, 1990. NRC concerns relative to the inspection findings also were discussed in an Enforcement Conference held on August 27, 1990. On September 4-6, 1990, a supplemental inspection was conducted to review and verify additional details which provided the bases for selected conclusions your staff presented during the Enforcement Conference. A summary of the Enforcement Conference is being forwarded to you under separate cover.

Based on the results of the inspections, certain of your activities appeared to be in violation of NRC requirements, as specified in the enclosed Notice of Violation. The apparent violations concerning potential extremity overexposures and transportation issues specified in Inspection Report No. 70-1113/90-07 transmitted by our cover letter of August 20, 1990, are not being cited because of the information obtained during the Enforcement Conference and subsequent further inspection. Other activities detailed in the August 20, 1990 Inspection Report continue to be considered in violation of NRC requirements, as specified in the enclosed Notice of Violation. Furthermore, Violation D and specific examples of Violation E described in the enclosed Notice are similar to violations contained in Notices sent to you by our letters dated January 27, 1989, July 27, 1989, and March 27, 1990. Recurring violations are of particular concern because the NRC expects licensees to learn from their past experiences and to take effective corrective actions.

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In addition to the repeat issues, Violations A through C indicate that your internal programs for self-identification and subsequent effective corrective actions regarding potential items of non-compliance tend to remain narrowly focused and look at single items with emphasis on NRC-identified issues. The program also fails to review, on a routine basis, the entire radiation protection program with the thoroughness necessary to effectively improve all program areas.

Therefore, in addition to the need for corrective action regarding the specific matters identified in the enclosed Notice, your response should describe those particular actions taken or planned to improve the effectiveness of your program.

You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. In your response, you should document the specific actions taken and any additional actions you plan to prevent recurrence.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

The responses directed by this letter and the enclosed Notice are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, Pub. L. No. 96.511.

Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact us.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY
J. PHILLIP STOHR

J. Philip Stohr, Director
Division of Radiation Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Violation
2. Supplemental Inspection Report
No. 70-1113/90-07

cc w/encls:

T. Preston Winslow, Manager
Licensing and Nuclear Materials
Management
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Wilmington, NC 28402

State of North Carolina

bcc w/encls: (See page 3)

General Electric Company

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