

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON D.C. 20566

DEC 2 7 1990

Docket No. 70-1113 License No. SNM-1097

General Electric Company
ATTN: Mr. T. Preston Winslow, Manager
Licensing and Nuclear Materials
Management, M/C 338
P. O. Box 700
Wilmington, North Carolina 28402

Gentleman:

By application and affidavit dated December 3, 1990, you submitted a request for permission to utilize the Uranium Recovery from Lagoon Sludge (URLS) project facility for the purpose of conducting uranium recovery development and processing and requested that the document be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790. This December 3, 1990, submittal replaces an August 2, 1990, submittal.

You stated that the submitted information should be considered exempt from mandatory public disclosure because it contains features of a uranium recovery process which were performed and leveloped at considerable expense to General Electric and which are not available to a her parties. Tablic disclosure of the information would likely cause substantial harm to the competitive position of the General Electric Company and eliminate or reduce the availability of profit-making opportunities.

We have reviewed your appliction and the material in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 2.790, and on the basis of your statements, have determined that the submitted information sought to be withheld contains trade secrets or proprietary commercial information. Therefore, the report "Uranium Recovery from Lagoon Sludge," marked proprietary, will be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790(b)(5) and Section 103(b) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

Withholding from public inspection shall not affect the right, if any, of persons properly and directly concerned to inspect the documents. If the need arises, we may send copies of this information to our consultants working in this area. We will, of course, ensure that the consultants have signed the appropriate agreements for handling proprietary information.

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If the basis for withholding this information from public inspection should change in the future such that the information could be made available for public inspection, you should promptly notify the NRC. You also should understand that the NRC may have cause to review this determination in the tuture, for example, if the scope of a Freedom of Information Act request includes your information. In all review situations, if the NRC makes a determination adverse to the above, you will be notified in advance of any public disclosure.

Your request to utilize the URLS will be addressed in separate correspondence.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

Richard E. Cunningham, Director Division of Industrial and Medical Nuclear Safety, NMSS

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