1 4 1994

Dr. Michael Allen Division 6422 Sandia National Laboratories P.O. Box 5800 Albuquerque, NM 97185

Dear Dr. Allen:

SUBJECT: DISPOSITION OF THE SURTSEY VESSEL

The last hydrogen test in the SURTSEY facility at SNL was conducted on May 16, 1994. This concluded all the hydrogen tests in SURTSEY as requested by NRR. Although the SURTSEY facility is suitable for conducting tests to study the passive autocatalytic recombiner performance or testing hydrogen distribution/stratification in containment, NRR has not requested such testing. Hence, no further use of the SURTSEY vessel for hydrogen testing is envisaged.

On May 25, 1994, we received a fax from you proposing to perform testing on a pad located near the SURTSEY vessel to demonstrate a technique for co-ejection of water with molten thermite, related to the DCH confirmatory testing for the CE geometry. This does not involve the use of the SURTSEY vessel itself. However, if this test is successful, it is our intention to run a similar test inside the SURTSEY vessel if the CTT facility is not available.

Since we can not identify any use for the SURTSEY vessel beyond that described above, we intend to abandon the vessel in place at SNL. Therefore, we expect no maintenance charge for the SURTSEY vessel after the middle of July 1994 against SNL Job Code W6162 (DCH testing), or against any other AEB program.

Sincerely,

Farouk Eltawila, Chief Accident Evaluation Branch Division of Systems Research Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

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OFFICE:	DSR/RES/AEB	AEB	AEB	AEB	DSR	DSR
NAME:	*Lee/pan	*Malliakos	*Tinkler	*Eltawila	Kingling	Hodges
DATE:	6/9/94	6/9/94	6/10/94	6/10/94	6/14/04	6/14/94

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