



Science Applications International Corporation
An Employee-Owned Company

November 21, 1994

Ms. Mary Adams
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards, NMSS
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
2 White Flint North
11545 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852

Reference: Contract No. NRC-02-90-009, Task Order No. 26, "Environmental Assessment for License Renewal for Siemens Power Corporation, Richland, WA, SNM-1227"

Dear Ms. Adams:

SAIC has reviewed Siemens's response to the request for additional information (RAI) submitted by NRC. We have also reviewed the updated portions of the license renewal application (September 12, 1994). Attached are clarifying questions regarding information in both these documents.

As a follow up to NRC request (AA-5) and SAIC's request B.1. (letter dated January 12, 1994), the licensee has provided some additional information on waste management practices; however, we need to get a better understanding of the annual volumes of waste generation as well as the volume of the various waste types currently stored onsite to assess the environmental impacts. In reviewing internal NRC correspondence, I noted a memo dated January 10, 1994 which specifically refers to waste management issues at Siemens. In this memo, it is acknowledged that Siemens is in the process of preparing a comprehensive waste management plan that will be provided to NRC. If this plan is available from NRC, it may provide the information we are looking for and the clarifying request can be deleted from the attachment.

In the course of drafting the EA, we have accumulated some minor questions that we would propose resolving via a phone call, with your concurrence. I will call you to discuss the attached RAIs, the handling of "minor" questions, and to determine if the waste management plan is available for review by SAIC.

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Other SAIC Offices: Albuquerque, Boston, Columbia, Fairfax, Dayton, Huntsville, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, McLean, Oak Ridge, Orlando, Philadelphia, Seattle, Tucson

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Sincerely,

Patricia Swain

SCIENCE APPLICATIONS
INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION

Patricia B. Swain
Project Manager

cc: J. Hammelman, SAIC
S. Krill, SAIC

Attachment

SIEMENS POWER CORPORATION
RENEWAL OF SNM-1227
CLARIFICATION ON RAI RESPONSES

SPC Response

AA-5 NRC question AA-5 requested that the license renewal application be updated to reflect the current waste management engineering plan. SPC provided information on aspects of the current waste management engineering plan in Section 6.4.2 of the license renewal application. Please provide information on the annual generation rate of the following categories of waste:

- solid waste (non radioactive and non-hazardous)
- liquid hazardous waste
- solid hazardous waste
- mixed waste
- wind blown sand recovered from the lagoons
- combustibile radioactive waste
- ash volumes
- other solid radioactive waste

In addition, please identify the volume of mixed waste and the various categories of radioactive waste currently stored onsite?

ENV-10 NRC question ENV-10 requested that the LLDs be identified for the media sampled as part of the environmental monitoring program. In SPC's response, the LLD for uranium in soil is reported as 0.5 ug/g or 0.5 ppm. However, 26 of the 32 quarterly values reported in Table 3 (page B-6, EMF-14, Rev.4) are at or below that LLD. Please clarify. In addition, the most recent environmental surveillance report for the Hanford site shows typical "background" levels of uranium in soil that are in the 1 to 1.5 ppm range with few samples below 0.8 ppm.

Has there been a change in the sampling or analysis technique for 1993? All of the 1993 soil values are well above the reported 0.5 ppm LLD and the second quarter results are given as "< 1.9", which would suggest an LLD of 1.9 ppm. Likewise, the fluoride concentration in vegetation samples is below the reported detection limit of 10 ppm through the third quarter of 1992, at which point the reported values are at or above the detection limit. Please explain.

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RENEWAL OF SNM-1227
CLARIFICATION ON R/A RESPONSES

ENV-12 NRC question ENV-12 requested identification for action levels for the lagoon leak detection system and for groundwater. Action levels for the lagoon liner leak detection system are provided. SPC notes that groundwater actions levels will be available October 31, 1994. Have these groundwater action levels been established? Is there a groundwater action level where isotope-specific analysis is required for the radionuclides?

70-1257

TO: Mary Adams



FAX NO.: (301) 415-5401

FROM: PATTI SWAIN, SAIC

FAX NO.: (703) 709-1038

PHONE NO.: (703) 318-4648

DATE: 12/12/94

NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING THIS SHEET: 5

SUBJECT: 11/21/94 Letter

MESSAGE:
Hi - Per our conversation, a copy of the letter with the dnd RAIs. I told John Stokely that I talked with you and we're waiting to set up a telecon.
[Signature]

Please Reply No Reply Necessary

PLEASE INFORM ME IMMEDIATELY IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE FACSIMILE IN FULL.

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