



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20586-0001

July 12, 1996

MEMORANDUM TO: NRR Project Directors

THRU: Gail H. Marcus, Director *Gail H Marcus*  
Project Directorate III-3  
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: William D. Reckley, Lead Project Manager *Will D Reckley*  
Project Directorate III-3  
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: BULLETIN 96-04, "CHEMICAL, GALVANIC, OR OTHER REACTIONS IN SPENT FUEL STORAGE AND TRANSPORTATION CASKS," (MPA X604)

MRC Bulletin 96-04 (attached) instructs power reactor licensees with independent spent fuel storage installations (ISFSIs), vendors of spent fuel storage or transportation casks, and holders of certificates of compliance for spent fuel storage or transportation casks to provide information related to material compatibility of storage casks or transportation casks with the environments that they may encounter. The bulletin was issued in response to an event at Point Beach in which a chemical reaction between a coating on a storage cask and the borated water in the spent fuel pool resulted in the production of hydrogen. A hydrogen ignition occurred when licensee personnel initiated welding of the cask lid.

The bulletin was sent to all holders of operating licenses or construction permits for nuclear power reactors. However, only those licensees with an existing ISFSI or holders of certificates of compliance for transportation casks need to respond to the bulletin. A list of plants from which a response is expected is provided below:

- |                      |             |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Calvert Cliffs       | Robinson    |
| Oconee               | Surry       |
| Arkansas Nuclear One | Davis-Besse |
| Palisades            | Point Beach |
| Prairie Island       |             |

Licensees that do not have an ISFSI or transport cask certificate of compliance should not submit any response to the bulletin (i.e., they should treat the bulletin the same as an information notice). This includes those licensees that plan to construct an ISFSI but have not yet taken delivery of the storage casks. If a licensee has questions on whether or not they need to respond to the bulletin, please have Project Managers contact me at 415-1314 or email-WDR.

10026

02-59

CONTACT: William D. Reckley, NRR  
(301) 415-1314

*WDR-11A NRC Bulletin*

**NRC FILE**  
9607170246 960712  
*WDR-11A*

*XA*

*C13*

MPA IACs have been opened for the plants listed above. If a licensee submits a response for any other plant, contact the NRR LPM and, if necessary, TACs will be created. Upon receiving a submittal from an "action addressee" licensee, Project Managers should update WISP to reflect the submittal and ensure that the NRR LPM is provided a copy of the submittal. Submittals will be evaluated by NMSS and NRR technical staff. Requests for additional information or other correspondence will be coordinated by the NRR LPM and provided to the appropriate Project Manager for issuance.

Project Managers may direct any questions regarding the bulletin to me at 415-1314/email-WDR or Marissa Bailey of NMSS at 415-8531/email-mgb.

Attachment: As stated.

cc: R. Zimmerman  
S. Varga  
J. Roe  
DRPE/DRPW Deputy Directors  
DRPE/DRPW Project Managers  
M. Boyle, TA, DRPE  
C. Carpenter, TA, DRPW