

5/2/84

Note to: Dan McDonald

From: J. Gray

SUBJECT: TURKEY POINT AMENDMENT REMOVING FUEL ENRICHMENT LIMITS

OELD has been asked to concur in a Notice and proposed NSHC finding for a proposed amendment for Turkey Point which would remove restrictions on fuel enrichment. Colleen Woodhead has discussed certain aspects of the proposed notice with you and is prepared to concur but, based on my own review of the Notice, I have certain concerns. These concerns relate to the bases for our proposed NSHC finding on the portions of the amendment changing fuel storage parameters.

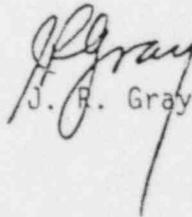
First, our basis for finding that the storage of more highly enriched spent fuel will not increase the probability or consequences of previously analyzed accidents is that the degree of burnup of stored spent fuel will not be changed and, therefore, the heat load from stored fuel will not change. Although a lack of change in heatload from stored spent fuel would provide a valid basis for finding that the probability/consequences of previously analyzing accidents in which heatload is important will not be increased, you have provided no basis for concluding that the level of burnup, and therefore heatload, will not be affected by this amendment. Are there license restrictions on burnup? If not, on what possible ground would we conclude that the burnup level

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of stored fuel will not eventually be increased. Why would licensee want to pay for and use fuel of increased enrichment if he is not going to utilize the higher level of U<sup>235</sup>?

Second, in addressing the matter of the possibility of a new or different kind of accident (Notice p. 6) you merely indicate that licensee has evaluated and concluded no new accident will be created. What do we conclude in this regard and why? Although we may agree with and adopt licensee's analysis, it is the NRC which must find NSHC and provide its basis for that finding.

Because I don't believe an adequate basis for NSHC has been provided in the particulars noted above, I would withhold concurrence in the proposed notice as presently constituted.

  
J. R. Gray