



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

APR 8 1983

Mr. Eugene P. Wilkinson, President
Institute of Nuclear Power Operations
1100 Circle 75 Parkway, Suite 1500
Atlanta, Georgia 30339

Dear Mr. Wilkinson:

SUBJECT: ACCESS TO FOREIGN INFORMATION

In your letter dated January 18, 1983, you requested that the NRC remove the restriction that only U.S. citizens have access to foreign information which has been or may be forwarded to INPO by the NRC. You indicated that this restriction limited the effectiveness of the SEE-IN Program and, consequently, limited the exchange of technical judgment, experience, and information among all program participants.

Based on our recent review of this situation, we agree that the INPO Confidentiality Agreement, when signed by all individuals including foreign on-loan employees having access to this information, coupled with an adequate procedure for the handling and storage of this information, provides an adequate level of protection. Thus, we will no longer require that this information be restricted to U.S. citizens. However, in removing this restriction, we will require (by return mail) INPO's written confirmation that the following provisions will continue to be met:

1. INPO shall house and use the information only at its Atlanta, Georgia headquarters office and shall protect it as proprietary information.
2. INPO shall grant access only to those staff members who have a need to know for use in work for the protection of the health and safety of the public and who have committed to protecting the information from disclosure by signing the Confidentiality Agreement.
3. INPO shall not release without prior NRC approval any descriptions, statistical summaries, or other analyses from which the supplying foreign country, utility, or plant could be identified, unless such descriptions or analyses are based exclusively on information available from other sources or approved for INPO release by the utility authorized to release such information or their agent.

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4. INPO shall not discuss or otherwise release foreign information supplied by the NRC to any other organization unless a need to know exists determined on a case-by-case basis and INPO can assure that a written agreement of confidentiality is in effect covering that organization and providing an equivalent level of protection or the information release is subject to the same restrictions as in (3) above. It is not intended to authorize bulk transfers by INPO of raw data supplied by NRC. Bulk transfers will continue to require NRC consultation and concurrence.

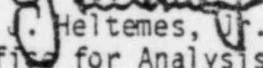
Further, we request your cooperation in assuring, to the extent practicable, that unnecessary references to and identification of foreign sources, facilities, countries, dates, and other specific characteristics be removed from incident information before release or disclosure.

This foreign operating information is being provided as part of the relationship established by the INPO/NSAC Memorandum of Agreement on operational data. If for any reason it becomes necessary to terminate or revise the forwarding of this information, we will discuss with you at that time whether the foreign information provided should be returned to NRC or retained and protected by INPO.

Your written confirmation must include an approved procedure for protecting and storing this information. Should we have any questions or comments, we will discuss them with you.

Please let me know should you need any clarification or further information.

Sincerely,


C. J. Heltemes, Jr., Director
Office for Analysis and Evaluation
of Operational Data

cc: E. Zebroski, INPO
S. Rosen, INPO
B. Cohn, INPO
R. Smith, INPO