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

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Mr. George Wessman, Director Plant Licensing Division General Atomic Company P. O. Box 81608 San Diego, California 92138

Dear Mr. Wessman:

SUBJECT: REVIEWS OF H-451 GRAPHITE AND THORIUM OXIDE FUEL

We have received your letter of October 25, 1978 inquiring about our reviews of H-451 graphite and thorium oxide fuel. With respect to H-451 graphite we are still aiming to complete our review in January 1979. This projection is based on our receiving fully acceptable responses to our additional information request by the end of November 1978.

The thorium oxide fuel review is in the acceptance review phase which we plan to complete by the end of this month. We will advise you at that time of our review schedule if the report is found acceptable.

William P. Gammill

Assistant Director for Standardization and Advanced Reactors

Division of Project Management

W. P. Hammill