

Notes

bcc: L. M. Rantzing, DR
L. V. Gossick, DR
G. Ertter (DR # 6062)

bcc: L. Brenner, NUMS
MPPB Branch Files
DR Central Files
DR Reading Files

AUG 17 1973

O. Stradinger, Office of Congressional Relations

INFORMATION ON MISSING SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL

The answer to your question regarding nuclear material at the SEFOR Plant and the plant in Apollo, Pennsylvania, is as follows:

A. SEFOR

There was no nuclear material missing at the SEFOR Reactor Facility. A small number of fuel rods (19 out of 550) for the reactor were found to contain less plutonium than specified. These rods were removed from the reactor and returned to the manufacturer in Tennessee. New fuel rods, with the proper amount of plutonium, were placed in the reactor as replacements.

Recovery of all of the material in process (scrap) has been completed at the manufacturing plants in Tennessee and New York. The quantity of unaccounted for plutonium was within the quantities expected, since this was the first time this type of fuel had been fabricated. Some 750 kilograms of plutonium were involved in the manufacture of these fuel rods and only about 6 kilograms were not accounted for. The AEC has determined that this amount of unaccounted for material was within the limits anticipated for this particular fuel fabrication procedure.

B. APOLLO, PENNSYLVANIA PLANT

Number

The "missing" nuclear material at the Apollo, Pennsylvania facility was the result of cumulative process losses from the time of the plant start-up in 1957 until 1965. At this time, the losses were identified as a result of an AEC inspection of the facility during a period of low inventory.

The losses resulted from understated process losses on individual contracts and the inability of plant management to maintain identity of the material as to the contract for which it was originally received. The AEC concluded that the "missing" nuclear material was removed as underestimated discards and burials, and held up in process equipment, piping, filters, etc.

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C PDR

OFFICE ▶	RO (V)	RO <i>W</i>	RO	Donald F. Knuth		
SURNAME ▶	HWerner:hgs	CWKuhlman	DFKnuth	Director of Regulatory Operations		
DATE ▶	X7214 8-17-73	8-17-73	<i>W</i>			

FROM OGR: Stradinger		CONTROL NUMBER 6062	FILE LOCATION
TO L. Manning Muntzing		DATE OF DOCUMENT 8/15/73	ION COMPLETION DEADLINE 8/17/73
DESCRIPTION Memo <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original <input type="checkbox"/> Copy <input type="checkbox"/> Other		ACTION PROCESSING DATES Acknowledged _____ Interim Reply _____ Final _____	PREPARE FOR SIGNATURE OF: _____ Chairman _____ Director of Regulation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Knuth
<p>Req reply to question re nuclear materials missing from the SEFOR plant and the plant in Apollo, Pa., for use in reply to ltr from a Congressional office - response requested by cod Aug. 17</p>		REMARKS	
REFERRED TO	DATE	IS NOTIFICATION TO THE JCAE RECOMMENDED? _____	
Knuth f/action	8/16/73	Cys: Muntzing Gossick	

DIRECTOR OF REGULATION
COMMUNICATIONS CONTROL

Form HQ-32 (1-73)
USAEC



UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20545

August 15, 1973

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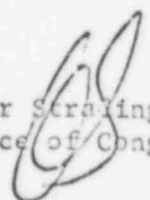
L. Manning Muntzing,
Director of Regulation

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

The Office of Congressional Relations has had referred to it from a Congressional office a letter which asks a number of questions. Please provide a suitable reply for the following question.

What is known about the nuclear materials missing from the SEFOR Plant and the plant in Apollo, Pennsylvania?

We would appreciate receiving your response by COB August 17.


Oscar Strafinger
Office of Congressional Relations

DR-6062

Rec'd Off. Dir. of Reg.
Date 8/15/73
Time 8:10