



RESPONSE TO FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA) REQUEST

PDR
016

FOIA-87-506

RESPONSE TYPE

FINAL

☒ PARTIAL

DATE

AUG 24 1987

DOCKET NUMBER(S) (if applicable)

REQUESTER

Mr. James M. Olson

PART I - RECORDS RELEASED OR NOT LOCATED (See checked boxes)

☐ No agency records subject to the request have been located.

☐ No additional agency records subject to the request have been located.

☒ Agency records subject to the request that are identified in Appendix A are already available for public inspection and copying in the NRC Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, DC.

☒ Agency records subject to the request that are identified in Appendix B are being made available for public inspection and copying in the NRC Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, DC, in a folder under this FOIA number and requester name.

☐ The nonproprietary version of the proposal(s) that you agreed to accept in a telephone conversation with a member of my staff is now being made available for public inspection and copying at the NRC Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, DC, in a folder under this FOIA number and requester name.

☐ Enclosed is information on how you may obtain access to and the charges for copying records placed in the NRC Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, DC.

☐ Agency records subject to the request are enclosed. Any applicable charge for copies of the records provided and payment procedures are noted in the comments section.

☐ Records subject to the request have been referred to another Federal agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

☐ In view of NRC's response to this request, no further action is being taken on appeal letter dated _____.

PART II.A - INFORMATION WITHHELD FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

☐ Certain information in the requested records is being withheld from public disclosure pursuant to the FOIA exemptions described in and for the reasons stated in Part II, sections B, C, and D. Any released portions of the documents for which only part of the record is being withheld are being made available for public inspection and copying in the NRC Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, DC, in a folder under this FOIA number and requester name.

Comments

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SIGNATURE, DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF RULES AND RECORDS

Donna H. Gundry

APPENDIX ARECORDS MAINTAINED AMONG PDR FILES

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
1.	7/84	Nureg/CR-3585- "de Minimis Waste Impacts Analysis Methodology," Acc. No. 8608200415

APPENDIX BRECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE PDR UNDER THE ABOVE REQUEST NUMBER

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
1.	4/26/85	Statement from the 1985 Paris Meeting of the International Commission of Radiological Protection - (4 pgs.)
2.	9/5/86	Letter to Commission Licensees from Malcolm R. Knapp, subject: "Policy Statement on Radioactive Waste Below Regulatory Concern with enclosure: FR Notice dtd. 8/29/86 - (10 pgs.)
3.	7/21/87	Letter to the Honorable Terry Sanford from Victor Stello with enclosures regarding rule-making activities, - (4 pgs.)

The Honorable Terry Sanford
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

JUL 21 1987

Dear Senator Sanford:

In your letter dated June 2, 1987 to Chairman Zech, you asked for a status report on the Commission's rulemaking activities relating to disposal of radioactive wastes that may be below regulatory concern. In addition, you mentioned that the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the General Accounting Office (GAO) have also indicated some concern with regard to wastes that may be below regulatory concern.

Enclosed for your information are copies of two Federal Register notices the Commission has published on this matter. These notices were issued in response to Section 10 of the Low-Level Radioactive Waste Policy Amendments Act of 1985 [P.L. 99-240], which requires the Commission to determine "whether the concentration or quantity of radionuclides present in such waste streams requires regulation by the Commission in order to protect the public health and safety." Please be assured that as these rulemaking efforts continue, we will give full consideration to the potential health hazards associated with unregulated disposals, and to concerns raised in public comments submitted. The Commission's primary responsibility under this Act and other statutes remains protection of the public health and safety.

We have been unable to determine what specific issues or concerns may have been raised by the NSF and the GAO. We have contacted staff at both the NSF and GAO to determine whether these organizations have issued reports or expressed any concerns about very low levels of radioactive contamination that might be found to be below regulatory concern. The NSF and GAO staff were unaware of reports or concerns related to these specific documents or correspondence from your constituents referenced in the incoming radioactive wastes. We also indicated the references to these organizations were very general and that no specific issues were identified. We are however providing below an overview of the Commission's regulatory concern rulemaking activities that contains both a report on those activities and answers to frequently asked questions concerning wastes below regulatory concern.

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Sincerely,

Original: [illegible]
Victor Stello, Jr.
Executive Director for Operations

Overview
FR notices dtd 8/29/86 and 12/2/86

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PDR