



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

April 14, 2023

Dr. Jeff Waksman
Strategic Capabilities Office
U. S. Department of Defense
4755 Meadow Wood Lane
Chantilly, VA 20151

**SUBJECT: REVIEW OF RISK ASSESSMENT APPROACH FOR TRANSPORTATION
PACKAGE APPROVAL OF A TRANSPORTABLE NUCLEAR POWER PLANT
FOR DOMESTIC HIGHWAY SHIPMENT– FIRST REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION**

Dear Dr. Waksman:

By request dated February 20, 2023 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. (ML23066A202), on behalf of the Strategic Capabilities Office within the Department of Defense, the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) requested U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) review of PNNL's document titled "Development and Application of Risk Assessment Approach for Transportation Package Approval of a Transportable Nuclear Power Plant for Domestic Highway Shipment."

In connection with our review, we need the information identified in the enclosures to this letter. The additional information requested in Enclosure 1 to this letter should be submitted in the form of revised pages to the PNNL document. Enclosure 2 contains the NRC's observations that an applicant might find useful when using the approach in an application for package approval, which are provided to potential applicants for information purposes only. The NRC does not expect responses to these observations.

Please provide your response to the questions in Enclosure 1 within 2 months from the date of this letter. If no additional information is needed after the staff's review of the response to our request for additional information, the NRC plans to issue a draft endorsement of the risk-assessment approach by the end of September 2023. The Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) informed the staff that it would like to review the risk assessment approach. Based on issuance of a draft endorsement by the end of September 2023, the staff plans to engage the ACRS in the fall of 2023.

Please reference Cost Accounting Code No. 001827, Docket No. 71-9396 and Enterprise Project Identifier (EPID) No. L-2022-NFN-0009 in future correspondence related to this request. The staff is available to meet to discuss your proposed responses. If you have any questions, I may be contacted at +1 (301) 415-6577 or via email at Bernard.White@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,



Signed by White, Bernard
on 04/14/23

Bernard H. White IV, Senior Project Manager
Storage and Transportation Licensing Branch
Division of Fuel Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No. 71-9396
EPID No. L-2022-NFN-0009

Enclosures:

1. Request for Additional Information
2. Observations

cc w/encl:

Steve Schilthelm, BWXT

Harold Adkins, PNNL

Steve Maheras, PNNL

Jeff England, NAC International, Inc.

RAI 1 on Project Pele Risk-Based Approach DATE April 14, 2023

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ADAMS Accession No.: ML23087A108; Ltr ML23087A109

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