



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

December 09, 1999

Mr. Robin DeLaBarre
Bureau of Non-proliferation Affairs
Office of Nuclear Energy Affairs
U.S. Department of State
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Mr. DeLaBarre:

Enclosed is an application dated September 23, 1999 from Siemens Power Corporation (SPC) for a license to import Class A waste from Germany.

The waste to be imported is from Advanced Nuclear Fuels GmbH (ANF) in Lingen, Germany, and consists of combustible materials contaminated with low enriched uranium. The waste is generated during low enriched nuclear fuel fabrication including conversion of UF₆, production of UO₂ powder, pressing of the powder into pellets, and loading of the pellets into fuel assemblies.

The imported material will be shipped directly from Europe by sea to U.S. East coast ports and ultimately by truck to SPC in Richland, Washington. Upon receipt, SPC will incinerate the material and the uranium in the ash will be recovered; the slightly contaminated non-combustibles sorted out during the incineration process will be returned to the originator in Germany. Residues from the filter process will be disposed of at either the Hanford low-level radioactive waste disposal site operated by U.S. Ecology in Richland, Washington or Envirocare in Clive, Utah in accordance with applicable site license conditions and waste acceptance criteria.

Before taking action on this application, we request your assistance in notifying the government of Germany of the proposed radioactive waste import and obtaining any comments in the context of the Code of Practice on Transboundary Movement of Radioactive Waste. We also request your views as to whether the subject import would be consistent with the Code's guidelines. NRC will consult with Washington and Idaho State authorities regarding the proposed import.

Sincerely,

Ronald D. Hauber, Deputy Director
Office of International Programs

Enclosure:

1. Import Lic. Appl. IW009 dtd 09/23/99
- cc w/encl: J. Greeve, NMSS/DWM
P. Lohaus, OSP

ENCLOSURE CENTER

2006-224

IP-3A

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Periodic shipments, through December 2010 will not exceed a total of 1,200 kilograms of uranium containing 36 kilograms of uranium-235 (5% maximum enrichment).

We would appreciate your review of the attached import license application, including the identification of any additional information the applicant should provide to us.

After all necessary information has been provided, we will forward the application to the Northwest Compact and the States of Utah and Washington for their review and comments. Steps already taken in regard to public notification and coordination with the Department of State are represented in Attachments 3 and 4.

- Attachments:
1. Application IW009 dated September 23, 1999
 2. State of Washington Department of Ecology letter to SPC dtd 02/26/99
 3. NRC letter to Department of State dated December 9, 1999
 4. Federal Register notice dated December 16, 1999

cc: P. Lohaus, OSP

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IW009

OIP r/f

JKennedy, DWM/NMSS

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