



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

MEMORANDUM TO: Eric Leeds, Acting Branch Chief
Licensing and International
Safeguards Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety
and Safeguards, NMSS

THRU: Charles W. Emeigh, Section Chief
Licensing Section
Licensing and International
Safeguards Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety
and Safeguards, NMSS

FROM: Paul Lain, Acting Project Manager
Licensing Team 2
Licensing and International
Safeguards Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety
and Safeguards, NMSS

SUBJECT: CONFERENCE CALL WITH WASHINGTON STATE RE: SIEMENS
POWER CORPORATION (TAC No. L31208)

A conference call was held on February 9, 2000, with representatives from the State of Washington Departments of Ecology, Health and Agriculture. Attendees from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) were:

Julie Olivier -	Chemical Engineer, Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards
Paul Lain -	Project Manager, Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards
Dan Martin -	Licensing Section 2 Team Leader, Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards
Chuck Emeigh -	Licensing Section Chief, Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards
Linda Suttora -	Environmental Review Team, Division of Waste Management
Anthony Huffert -	Special Projects Section, Division of Waste Management
John Greeves -	Director, Division of Waste Management
Paul Lohaus -	Director, Office of State Programs
Frederick Combs -	Deputy Director, Office of State Programs
Dennis Sollenburger -	Senior Health Physicist, Office of State Programs
John Hickey -	Branch Chief, Division of Industrial and Medical Nuclear Safety
Stuart Treby -	Assistant General Counsel for Rulemaking and Fuel Cycle, Office of General Counsel

Attendees from the State of Washington were:

- John Erickson - Director of Radiation Protection, Department of Health
- Debra McBaugh- Manager, Environmental Radiation Section, Department of Health
- Terry Frazee - Supervisor, Radioactive Materials Section, Department of Health
- Al Conklin - Manager of Air Emissions Section, Department of Health
- Catherine Card - Radiation Health Physicist (Envir. Rad Section), Department of Health
- Leo Wainhouse - Radiation Health Physicist (Rad. Materials Section), Department of Health
- Johanna Berkey - Radiation Health Physicist (Air Emissions Section), Department of Health
- Bridget Moran - Registration Specialist, Department of Agriculture
- Ted Maxwell - Program Manager, Pesticide Management, Department of Agriculture
- Joel Kangiser - Program Coordinator, Pesticide Management, Department of Agriculture

The conference call was held in order to discuss the State's response to the draft Environmental Assessment prepared by the NRC for an amendment request by Siemens Power Corporation (SPC) for the unrestricted commercial release of excess process effluent. Siemens wants to sell an ammonium solution bearing 1 ppm uranium to a fertilizer distributor. In 1996, Siemens was previously granted authorized to release a similar solution with 0.05 ppm uranium. While the State regulators had some technical issues requiring clarification, their main concern is that public perception of the amendment would be extremely negative. The State is sensitive to recent events in Tennessee concerning release of materials with trace amounts of radionuclides. NRC staff took the position that this material is a viable economic product and our technical review has shown that the health and safety of the public and the environment would not be harmed if we approve the amendment request. The State was concerned that SPC was not permitted to sell ammonium solutions as fertilizers and was planning to visit the site the following day. If the State is successful at stopping the sale of any ammonium solutions from SPC, SPC may re-call the current amendment request. The call concluded with NRC offering to have the staff available to attend meetings between the State and SPC to further discuss the issue. We will continue to communicate with the State and SPC, after the site visit.

Docket 70-1257
License SNM-1227

cc: John L. Erickson, Director
Division of Radiation Protection
Department of Health, Bldg #5
P.O. Box 47827
7171 Clean Water Lane
Olympia, Washington 98504-7827

[Faint stamp: RECEIVED DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH]

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