

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION II 245 PEACHTREE CENTER AVENUE NE, SUITE 1200 ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-1257

April 1, 2015

Tom Clements
Director, Savannah River Site Watch
TomClements329@cs.com

SUBJECT:

Construction Concern You Raised to the NRC Regarding the Mixed Oxide Fuel

Fabrication Facility

Dear Mr. Clements:

This letter refers to your telephone conversation with Ms. Deborah A. Seymour on January 22, 2015, during which you expressed concerns that you raised during a public meeting on January 15, 2015, that were related to construction issues at the Mixed Oxide (MOX) Fuel Fabrication Facility.

Enclosure 1 to this letter documents your concern as we understand it. If the description of your concern as noted in Enclosure 1 is not accurate, please contact me so that we can assure that your concern is appropriately described.

We have reviewed your concern and determined that your concern and the associated activities are not under NRC regulatory jurisdiction. As of the date you raised your concern, the issue referred to in Enclosure 1 pertained to non-Quality Level 1 (QL-1) activities. QL-1 systems, structures and components (SSCs) as defined in the MOX Project Quality Assurance Plan, include all Items Relied on for Safety (IROFS) including principal SSCs (PSSCs) identified during the design phase prior to the completion of the Integrated Safety Analysis. On the basis of the foregoing, NRC intervention on this issue is not warranted at this time.

Additionally, based on your telephone conversation with me on January 22, 2015, it was understood that you would try to provide additional information to facilitate our review of your concern. To date, we have received no additional information from you. Please call Ms. Sandra Mendez-Gonzalez at the toll free telephone number noted below extension 4707, or contact her in writing at P. O. Box 56274, Atlanta, GA 30343, within ten days of the date you receive this letter, to arrange for provision of the information. If no additional information is received, we will take no further action regarding this matter at this time.

If a request is filed under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) related to your areas of concern, the information provided will, to the extent consistent with that act, be purged of names and other potential identifiers.

The NRC brochure "Reporting Safety Concerns to the NRC" contains information that you may find helpful in understanding our process for review of safety concerns. It includes an important discussion of our identity protection procedures and limitations. The brochure can be found on the NRC public web site at the following link:

http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/nuregs/brochures/br0240/

Allegations are an important source of information in support of the NRC's safety mission. We take our safety responsibility to the public seriously and will continue to do so within the bounds of our lawful authority. We believe that our actions have been responsive to your concern. If, however, new information is provided that suggests that our conclusions should be altered, we will reevaluate that information to determine if additional evaluation is indicated. Should you have any additional, questions or if the NRC can be of further assistance, please call me at the regional office toll-free number 1-800-577-8510 extension 4476 or you may provide information to me in writing at P. O. Box 56274, Atlanta, GA 30343. You may also communicate with me by electronic mail, if you so choose. However, when doing so, please call me in advance or provide your phone number in your e-mail message so that I can confirm that you are the source of the information. Also, please be advised that the NRC cannot protect the information during transmission on the Internet and there is a possibility that someone could read your response while it is in transit. My e-mail address is Deborah.Seymour@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

Deborah Seymour, Chief

Construction Projects Branch 1
Division of Construction Projects

Enclosure: As stated

CB&I AREVA MOX SERVICES

MIXED OXIDE FUEL FABRICATION FACILITY

STATEMENT OF CONCERN

Concern:

Certain things (components) were installed incorrectly inside the MOX plant.

Background:

During a public meeting held in New Ellenton, SC on January 15, 2015, and during a subsequent telephone conversation on January 22, 2015, you indicated that you were made aware of rumors that certain components had been installed incorrectly inside the Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility. You believe that CB&I AREVA MOX Services and its subcontractors incorrectly installed cable trays, piping, switch gears and the tagging of wiring in the Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility.