

Department of Energy

Sevannah River Operations Office P.O. Box A Aiken, South Carolina 29802

SEP 2 5 1997

Dr. Carl J. Paperiello, Director Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555

Dear Dr. Paperiello:

SUBJECT: Existing Aluminum Spent Nuclear Fuel Performance Database Documents For Your Review and Comments (As Per Interagency Agreement DE-A109-96SR18579 and Memorandum of Understanding)

Per Interagency Agreement DE-A109-96SR18579 and Memorandum of Understanding, Savannah River Operations Office is submitting to you five copies of the Existing Aluminum Spent Nuclear Fuel Performance Database Documents for your review and comments as described in the presentation held on October 31, 1996.

These documents characterize the basic research on aluminum based spent nuclear fuel for a period of 50 years and will be used as the basis for all future extrapolations for the behavior of the fuel for longer periods of time.

Your review/comments and indication of "no objections" within 60 days will be greatly appreciated.

Any contracting questions should be addressed to Beth O'Rear at (803) 725-1345. For all other questions, please contact me or Jean M. Ridley, P.E. of my staff at (803) 557-3758.

Sincerely,

A. Lee Watkins

A. Lee Watkins Assistant Manager for Material and Facility Stabilization

RSFD:JMR:ddc

UE-97-0094

11 Enclosures (See Page 2)