



Canadian Nuclear
Safety Commission

Commission canadienne
de sûreté nucléaire

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Your file Votre référence

Directorate of Power Reactor Regulation

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4.01.02

June 21, 2010

Mr. Doug Parker
Station Manager
Point Lepreau Generating Station
New Brunswick Power Nuclear
P.O. Box 600
Lepreau, NB, E5J 2S6
Canada

Subject: Request pursuant to Subsection 12(2) of the *General Nuclear Safety and Control Regulations: Operating Experience (OPEX) Issue Relating to Potential Alpha Radiation Exposure to Fuel Handling Workers*

Dear Mr. Parker:

I am writing to communicate a concern with respect to potential alpha exposure of workers at your facility. Based on preliminary information received by the CNSC, it appears that there is the potential for workers conducting fuel handling and maintenance activities, and possibly other workers, to be exposed to alpha radiation. As such, CNSC requires that you provide certain information and take actions to address any potential issues in your facility.

Therefore, pursuant to my authority as a person authorized by the Commission for the purposes of subsection 12(2) of the *General Nuclear Safety and Control Regulations*, I request that New Brunswick (NB) Power Nuclear complete, no later than July 30, the following actions:

- perform a risk identification and characterization survey with respect to the presence of alpha hazards in your facility; and
- implement work controls to mitigate potential alpha exposures for fuel handling workers in your facility.

I further request that NB Power Nuclear will enhance radiation protection program requirements related to alpha monitoring and control, as deemed necessary. The

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programmatic requirements must take account of current industry best practices and OPEX. NB Power Nuclear shall provide the proposed program and the program's implementation schedule no later than September 30, 2010.

Please note that, in accordance with subsection 12(2) of the *General Nuclear Safety and Control Regulations*, NB Power Nuclear is required to file a report by July 2, 2010, with the Commission that contains the following information:

- a) confirmation that the request will or will not be carried out or will be carried out in part;*
- b) any action that NB Power Nuclear has taken to carry out the request or any part of it;*
- c) any reasons why the request or any part of it will not be carried out;*
- d) any proposed alternative means to achieve the objectives of the request;*
and
- e) any proposed alternative period within which NB Power Nuclear proposes to carry out the request.*

If you have any questions related to this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone at (613) 995-2655 or by e-mail at Greg.Rzentkowski@cnsccsn.gc.ca.

A similar letter has been sent to all CANDU reactor Licensees.

Yours truly,



Greg Rzentkowski, PhD
Director-General
Directorate of Power Reactor Regulation

c.c.: R. Jammal (CNSC), T. Jamieson (CNSC), F. Rinfret (CNSC), L. Thiele (CNSC), P. Thompson (CNSC).