



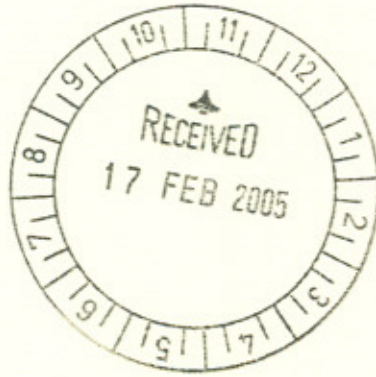
Australian Government



Nuclear-based science benefiting all Australians

EXECUTIVE

15 February 2005



Dr J Loy
CEO
ARPANSA
P O Box 655
MIRANDA NSW 1490

Dear Dr Loy

APPLICATION FOR A FACILITY LICENCE, OPERATING AUTHORISATION FOR THE REPLACEMENT RESEARCH REACTOR

In its Application for a Facility Licence, Operating Authorisation for the Replacement Research Reactor, ANSTO provided details of its preferred options for the disposition of spent fuel arising from the operation of the replacement reactor. Those details were contained in the Ultimate Disposal and Transfer Plan (RRRP-7200-EDEAN-005-Rev0), which formed part of Part B of the licence application. On 17 December 2004, I wrote to you with further information concerning announcements by the United States Department of Energy (DOE) and commitments from COGEMA that enabled the details for the two preferred disposition routes identified in the plan to be confirmed.

The Plan also refers to a further back-up option for the management of spent fuel arising from the operation of the replacement reactor, offered by INVAP. At that time, we noted that an agreement with Argentina at inter-governmental level to support these arrangements had been signed by both governments, but had not yet been ratified by Argentina.

I am pleased to advise that Argentina has now ratified the Agreement. A translation of the Note advising of that ratification is at Attachment 1.

ANSTO has therefore further updated the Ultimate Disposal and Transfer Plan, a revision of which (RRRP-7200-EDEAN-005-Rev2) is Attachment 2. A compilation of the changes to RRRP-7200-EDEAN-005-Rev1 is Attachment 3.

Yours sincerely

DR IAN SMITH
Executive Director