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PAGE 01 STATE 018777  
ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-00 ADS-00 AID-07 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00  
ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-14 L-03 NSAE-00 EB-08  
NRC-02 OES-09 DODE-00 H-01 DOE-10 SS-15 SP-02  
CEQ-01 PM-07 SPRS-02 /115 R

RELEASE IN FULL

DRAFTED BY EA/J:JEHAYES:BCL  
APPROVED BY EA/J - WILLIAM CLARK, JR.  
OES/NET:JSALMON

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E.O. 12065: GDS 1/23/86 (CLARK, WILLIAM JR.)

TAGS: TNUC, JA, US

SUBJECT:TOKAI MURA REPROCESSING PLANT OPERATING EXTENSION

1. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION HAS INFORMED THE DEPT.  
OF ENERGY THAT IT HAS NO OBJECTION TO THE PROPOSED SUB-  
SEQUENT ARRANGEMENT FOR EXTENSION OF THE AGREEMENT FOR  
REPROCESSING US ORIGIN SPENT FUEL IN THE TOKAI MURA PLANT.

2. DEPT. PLANS TO SUBMIT SUBSEQUENT ARRANGEMENT TO CONGRESS  
ON MONDAY, JANUARY 26 TO BEGIN PERIOD OF CONGRESSIONAL RE-  
VIEW.

3. DEPT HAS PREPARED PRESS GUIDANCE FOR USE IN RESPONDING  
TO INQUIRIES ABOUT THE TOKAI MURA AGREEMENT EXTENSION.  
BEGIN TEXT:

QUESTION: WHAT IS THE STATUS OF THE US-JAPAN DISCUSSIONS  
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REVIEW AUTHORITY: Charles Lahiguera, Senior  
Reviewer

PAGE 02 STATE 018777

ON AN EXTENSION OF THE PERIOD OF OPERATION OF THE TOKAI-  
MURA REPROCESSING FACILITY?

ANSWER: UNITED STATES AND JAPANESE AUTHORITIES HAVE  
SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDED THE DISCUSSIONS FOR THE CONTINUED  
OPERATION OF THE TOKAI-MURA REPROCESSING FACILITY. THE

THE ARRANGEMENTS, WHICH ARE SUBJDCT TO FURTHER INTERNAL  
REVIEW BY US GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND TO REVIEW BY THE  
CONGRESS, WOULD PAVE THE WAY FOR THE REPROCESSING OF AN

ADDITIONAL 50 TONNES OF SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL AND WOULD RUN THROUGH JUNE 1, 1981.

QUESTION: WHAT DOES THIS EXTENSION MEAN FOR THE STATUS OF JAPAN'S PROPOSED SECOND REPROCESSING PLANT?

ANSWER: WE HAVE IN ESSENCE EXTENDED THE PERIOD OF COVERAGE OF THE ORIGINAL JOINT COMMUNIQUE ON TOKAI MURA. CONSULTATIONS WOULD BE HELD ON THE SECOND PLANT ISSUE, SHOULD IT PROVE NECESSARY DURING THE EXTENDED PERIOD.

4. (FYI) THE TEXT OF THE PRESS GUIDANCE WAS PREPARED BY DEPT AND GOJ EMBASSY OFFICIALS.

5. (FYI) NRC DECISION WAS DELIVERED WITH A NOTE THAT COMMISSIONERS BRADFORD AND GILINSKY DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE DECISION. END FYI.

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