

March 4, 2002

LICENSEE: University of Virginia (UVA)

FACILITY: UVA Research Reactor (UVARR)

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MEETING BETWEEN UVA AND NRC STAFFS

On December 14, 2001, representatives of the NRC staff met at NRC Headquarters with representatives of the UVA, the licensee for the UVARR. Representatives of the licensee's contractor (CH2MHILL) also attended the meeting. Enclosure one is a list of meeting attendees. Enclosure two is the briefing material provided by the licensee at the meeting.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss decommissioning of the UVARR. Topics were the timetable for the approval of the UVARR decommissioning plan (DP), actions that the licensee can take prior to approval of the DP, samples for the confirmatory survey, and NRC feedback on the UVA DP.

The UVARR DP is currently under review by the NRC staff. The CAVALIER DP for the second reactor on site was approved in 1992.

The timetable for approval of the UVA DP was discussed. The licensee was working with a deadline of June 30, 2002, to ship waste to the Barnwell disposal site; however, subsequent discussion with the licensee has indicated that this date has been relaxed to June 30, 2003. The NRC staff stated that it would give completion of the review high priority given workload constraints and the priority of other commitments. Currently, it is estimated that the DP approval will be issued in March 2002.

Discussions focused on what actions the licensee could take without an approved DP. One acceptable activity included general housekeeping, such as disposal of loose items and additional characterization (as long as decommissioning was not needed to perform the characterization). It was noted that with the approved CAVALIER DP, the licensee could start decommissioning activities at any time and the CAVALIER would allow the licensee an opportunity to gain decommissioning experience on a reactor with significantly less radioactive material than the UVARR. A question was asked about changes to the CAVALIER DP. Because the CAVALIER DP was approved by an Order (the approval process in place in 1992), any changes to the DP would require NRC approval.

Contact: Alexander Adams

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The final and confirmatory surveys were discussed. NRC will observe the licensee's conduct of its final survey as well as conduct confirmatory measurements. The licensee asked about sampling in areas where backfilling of excavations would be advantageous. The NRC will work with the licensee in those circumstances to the extent practicable to meet the licensee's needs.

The NRC staff stated that the DP would probably be issued with license conditions. The purpose of the conditions would be to prevent changes to the DP without NRC approval that could impact the process of demonstrating compliance with the regulations for unrestricted release and to require submission of information that the licensee would obtain during the decommissioning process (such as the submission of additional characterization and groundwater study results).

/RA/

Alexander Adams, Jr., Senior Project Manager
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Operating Reactor Improvements Program
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-62 and 50-396

Enclosures: 1. List of Meeting Attendees
2. Briefing Material

cc w/enclosures: Please see next page

University of Virginia

Docket Nos. 50-62/396

cc:

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LIST OF MEETING ATTENDEES

MEETING BETWEEN THE NRC STAFF AND VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

November 28, 2001

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