



UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA
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DEPARTMENT OF NUCLEAR ENGINEERING AND ENGINEERING PHYSICS
REACTOR FACILITY

TELEPHONE: 804-924-7136

December 21, 1982

Mr. David M. Verrelli
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
101 Marietta Street, N.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

RE: 50-62/82-01 and 50-396/82-01

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the NRC compliance inspection of our facility on November 15-17, 1982 by Mr. A.K. Hardin and Mr. C.W. Hehl concerning License R-66 and R-123 for the UVAR and CAVALIER reactors. There were apparently three violations uncovered during the inspection.

- A. Daily swipe surveys were not being performed in controlled areas within the UVAR reactor room as required by Chapter 10 of the Standard Operating Procedures.

The controlled areas in the UVAR reactor room were set up several years ago when that area was frequently used in handling experiments going in and out of the reactor and there was the possibility of contamination. The type of experiments that have been run over the past year have not required the use of this area on a regular basis. When the area is used to transfer experiments it has been surveyed after use to check for possible contamination. Since the inspection of November 15-17 we have swiped the area on a daily basis and will continue to do so and consider ourselves in full compliance at this time. In addition, we have installed a frisker just outside the controlled area for personnel use when exiting that area. A hand and foot monitor is still installed outside the UVAR reactor room for personnel use when exiting the room. Also, Chapter 10 of the Standard Operating Procedures has been completely rewritten to better define Health Physics activities and is currently under review by the Reactor Safety Committee.

- B. The operator requalification files did not contain comments on evaluations of operator performance or a review log containing up-to-date procedure changes.

The files do contain a list of operators and the dates they were observed by a Senior Operator at the console although no comments were made. A check-list for evaluation of operators has been established that covers areas of procedures, check-lists, technical specifications and emergency and abnormal procedures. As of this date 26 operators have been evaluated using this form and we expect to evaluate all of the operators within the next two months.

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Due to the large number of operators at the facility a review log for changes to equipment, procedures, etc. appears inadequate. All such changes are now being reviewed with the operators at monthly requalification lectures when we can get practically everyone together at one time.

We feel that we are now in full compliance with these two items.

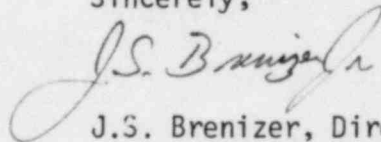
C. Changes to Operating Procedures were not maintained in a manner convenient for review.

All changes to procedures can be found in the minutes of Safety Committee files, although they were not being kept separately in one file. The Reactor Supervisor keeps a list of procedure changes dating back to 1970. We have established a new file that will contain procedure changes as they are approved and the file will be maintained in a manner convenient for review. We feel that we are now in full compliance with this item.

During the inspection of the facility it was noted that the housekeeping around the UVAR facility needed improvement. The clutter in these areas is due primarily to running the reactor around the clock and lack of adequate storage space. Also, two full-time staff members left the facility during the summer and we have not been able to replace them due to a hiring freeze imposed by the Governor of Virginia. We intend to shutdown for about a month during the Christmas break and intend to improve the housekeeping during this period. We also hope to be able to replace the additional staff members shortly after the first of the year.

We hope this adequately addresses the concerns presented. If more information is needed please contact us.

Sincerely,



J.S. Brenizer, Director
UVA Reactor Facility

JSB:vs